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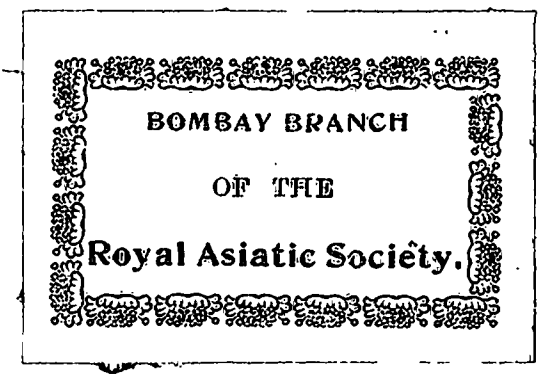

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REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF BURMA

For the Year 1922-23.

PART I.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

1. The year 1922-23 was one of far-reaching constitutional and administrative changes, first among which must be mentioned the conversion of Burma into a Governor's province under the Government of India Act, with a mainly elective legislative council and a diarchical executive. This change took effect at the opening of the calendar year 1923, when the last Lieutenant-Governor, the Hon'ble Sir Reginald Craddock, K.C.S.I., was replaced by the first Governor, His Excellency Sir Harcourt Butler, G.C.I.E., K.C.S.I. A few days earlier the High Court of Judicature at Rangoon, consisting of a Chief Justice and seven other permanent Judges, was established by letters patent of His Majesty and assumed the jurisdiction formerly exercised by the Chief Court of Lower Burma and the Judicial Commissioner of Upper Burma. The establishment of the High Court was accompanied by a reorganization of the Superior Judicial Service, by which Divisional Judges were abolished and a District and Sessions Judge was appointed for each administrative district or group of districts; and at the same time, in consequence of the relief from judicial work which this change gave to Divisional Commissioners in Upper Burma, a re-arrangement of divisions took place, whereby the four former divisions of Upper Burma, with the Shan States, were distributed among three Commissioners, and a new division was formed in Lower Burma consisting of the town of Rangoon and the districts immediately surrounding it. The Northern and Southern Shan States were formed into a federation, and became a sort of sub-province with finances distinct from those of Burma proper and under the direct control of the Governor alone. For the administration of the Shan States and other backward tracts, a special service known

as the Burma Frontier Service was formed. In the Public Works Department a definite separation was made between the irrigation and the buildings and roads branches. The province was divided into three circles in the former branch and nine—corresponding generally to the civil divisions—in the latter. Lastly must be mentioned the formation towards the end of the year of elective district councils and circle boards under the Burma Rural Self-Government Act, which represented the beginning of self-government, freed from official co-operation, in rural areas.

2. Nothing occurred to disturb the peace of the North-East Frontier, and relations with the Chinese and Siamese authorities beyond it continued friendly. The Shan States generally had a prosperous year. The most important event was the first session of the new Federal Council of Shan Chiefs, which was opened by the Governor in person. The session gave promise of efficient working. The work done included the discussion and approval of the Federation budget, recommendations regarding the extension of certain enactments to the Shan States, the drawing up of various rules, and the discussion of road programmes and other subjects connected with development. There were no events of outstanding importance in the Kachin Hills. The Chin Hills also enjoyed a peaceful and prosperous year; and no disturbance was reported from the area recently brought under administration. The western boundary of the Somra Tract was defined with the Manipur authorities, and it was arranged that the unadministered area between that tract and Manipur should be taken over by the Manipur State.

3. The condition of the people of Burma was less prosperous than in the previous year. The harvest was on the whole poor; and owing to a weak Far-Eastern and Indian demand, the price of rice ruled lower. Internal trade was slack; and the volume of civil litigation increased considerably. To judge from vital statistics there was something of a decline in public health; and serious crime continued to increase, although there was again some abatement of minor offences.

4. No changes of importance were made in the system of administration of the land revenue or of control over the occupation of waste land; but some modifications of the procedure for the settlement of the land revenue were adopted, with the main objects of rendering operations less unwieldy and of giving more opportunity for protest against the rates proposed. New settlements were sanctioned for the Mergui District and for a portion of the Pyapôn District, which were expected to produce a gross increase of rather over two lakhs of rupees. The original demand of land revenue for the year was well ahead of that of the previous year; but owing to damage by floods in Tenasserim and the delta, an unusually large amount had to be remitted. Some difficulty, towards which

political agitation seems to have contributed, was met with in the collection of the revenue, and it was necessary to resort to coercive measures more frequently than usual. The repayment of loans made to agriculturists also fell considerably below the amount due. The settlement of agricultural population on accretions on the banks of the Sittang was continued by the Colonization Department ; and a beginning was made in a newly protected area in the north of the Pegu District. Colonization in Myitkyina and on the Yandoon Island, however, was at a standstill.

5. The most important enactment passed by the local legislature during the year was the Burma Courts Act, 1922, which effected the legal changes necessitated by the establishment of the High Court of Judicature and the changes in the system of judicial administration already referred to. The Burma Midwives and Nurses Act, 1922, which was introduced by a non-official member of the Council, provides for the registration and better training of midwives and nurses, and checks the unlicensed and ignorant practice which has caused much suffering and loss of life in the past. Other Acts passed were generally concerned with the amendment of details in previously existing Acts, making minor changes which experience in administration had shown to be desirable.

6. Although the total volume of crime again showed a small decrease, the number of dacoities and robberies continued to increase ; and a particularly disquieting feature was the use of firearms in a considerably larger number of cases. The police were noticeably less successful in the detection of these classes of cases, although in others the level of detection showed little variation from that of previous years. The low percentage of conviction in cases of violent crime was noticed by the High Court, and was attributed in part to delays in trial as well as to deficiencies in police work and in prosecution. More use was made of the Habitual Offenders Restriction Act, which seems to have contributed to decreases in the number of burglaries, cattle thefts and ordinary thefts. Village headmen continued to be of great assistance to the police, but their work was hampered and their loyalty often put to a great strain by the opposition of political associations. Charges of abuse of authority by headmen were seldom proved, though frequently made. One of the most striking features of the judicial administration was a continued fall in the number of offenders flogged or released on probation, as compared with the number sent to prison. The ideal of avoiding the production of young criminals by contamination in jail seems to be one that many magistrates fail to appreciate. In the jails the separation of casual from habitual prisoners continued to receive attention. Sixteen of the twenty-four district jails are now reserved for the confinement of casual criminals.

7. The beginning of local self-government in rural areas has already been mentioned. The members of circle boards and district councils were elected late in the year ; and the councils began work with funds mainly inherited from the district cess funds and district funds which they superseded. They were largely occupied during the remainder of the year with the entertainment of staff and establishment and other preliminary arrangements. Four new municipalities were formed during the year, bringing the total number up to 52. The constitution of the Rangoon Municipality was revised under a new Act, which replaced the old municipal committee by a mainly elective Corporation having wider and more useful powers. The acquisition on behalf of the Rangoon Port Trust of a large area of land at Dawbon for future development of the port was begun.

8. The cultivated area of the province continued to expand, though to a smaller extent than in the previous year, when the conditions were exceptionally favourable. In the year under review the rains were less timely, and in Lower Burma much damage was done by floods, recovery from which was prevented by a shortage of late rain. The price of rice ruled generally lower than in the previous year, the Indian and Far-Eastern demand being weak. The health of cattle was good except for outbreaks of rinderpest in the Upper Chindwin and Amherst Districts and one of anthrax in Mergui. The activities of the Agricultural Department expanded during the year, three new circles being opened, in Arakan, the delta and central Burma. Valuable research work was done by the department, as well as seed distribution ; improved implements were designed, and new processes for the treatment of produce invented. There was no considerable expansion of the work of the Co-operative Department. The tendency to interpret co-operation as meaning only cheap credit, and to neglect the collection of deposits in the expectation of getting ample loans from central banks still persisted.

9. In the Forest Department the investment of money in the means of making the forest wealth of the province more accessible continued. The expenditure on forest roads was more than three times, and the length of roads constructed about two and a half times, that of the previous year. Owing to a poor floating season and a weak market, the outturn of teak both by Government and by lessees was smaller ; but that of other reserved timber increased.

10. There was a decrease in the output of petroleum from the older and larger oil-fields, which increased output on the newer fields was insufficient to counteract. At the lead and silver mines of the Burma Corporation, Limited, in the Northern Shan States, further discoveries of high grade ore were made, and production again showed a marked increase. The total output from these mines for the year was valued at

well over two crores of rupees. Although the large tin mines at Mawchi in Karenni remained closed throughout the year, the output of tin ore from the mines in Tenasserim showed an increase of some 15 per cent.; and with this there was also a small increase in the output of tungsten ore. The production of jade and rubies showed some increase. One exceptionally valuable ruby of 23 carats was discovered. The Indian market for rubies was depressed owing to the importation of German synthetic gems.

11. Industrial development was represented by the opening of 53 new rice mills. The growth of small mills of late years appears to have exceeded the requirements of the rice crop, and a large proportion are able to work only a few days a week, even in the busy season. In the matter of trade the year was quiet and devoid of any very striking features. With the removal of control and the cessation of the abnormal demand from India, exports of rice to foreign destinations increased. Exports of oil fell off; and the timber and hides trades remained dull. Imports of cotton goods recovered slightly from the bad slump in the previous year, and imports of sugar, provisions and silk increased substantially. Imports of coal, on the other hand, declined. As a whole the value of imports from Indian ports declined considerably, and from foreign countries slightly; while a large decrease in the value of exports to Indian ports was almost balanced by an increase in that of exports to foreign countries. Germany regained her position as the second most important supplier to and customer of Burma, after the British Empire. Transfrontier trade with China and Siam continued to decline, increased imports being more than balanced by decreased exports.

12. The construction of the Moulmein-Ye, Pyinmana-Taungdwingyi and Alon-Saingbyin-Ye-u railways out of the rice control profits fund continued, and progress was made on all three lines. No new sections, however, were opened to traffic during the year. Original work by the Public Works Department on roads consisted mainly of improvements to existing roads to meet present traffic requirements. The navigation canals were maintained in good working order, but trouble was as usual caused by the water hyacinth weed, which at one time caused a blockage for several days in the Pegu-Sittang canal. Buildings completed by the Public Works Department included a new Council Chamber and quarters for fifty-four officials in Rangoon, a section of the new lunatic asylum at Tadagale, and police quarters in various parts of the province. In the irrigation branch good progress was made towards the completion of the Ye-u canal, and all the large channels were partially opened. The conditions as regards water-supply were favourable on all the irrigation works, and the acreage of irrigated land everywhere showed an increase. The protective embankments in Lower Burma met with

no serious mishap and performed their functions satisfactorily. Work on the extension of the Sittang embankment, which was begun in the previous year, was retarded by an outbreak of cholera and by breaches due to flood. Burmese labour was employed on a large scale for the first time on this work, and was reported satisfactory.

13. There was no change during the year in the financial arrangements between the Central and Provincial Governments. Revenue receipts under the central heads showed an increase of Rs. 2·18 crores, the great bulk of which was contributed by customs, thanks to the enhancement of import duty rates and an increase of rice export duty with the larger exports of rice to foreign countries. A decrease in collections of income-tax was rather more than counterbalanced by a rise in collections of super-tax. There was a small decrease under salt and a smaller increase under opium. The total receipts of provincial revenue amounted to Rs. 9·42 crores, or some Rs. 47 lakhs less than in the previous year. The figures for 1921-22 had been swollen by the final receipts on account of the rice control profits and by the receipt of an unusually large amount of land revenue that had stood over for collection from the previous financial year. Return to normal explained the bulk of the total decrease. There was, however, a real decline in forest revenue, owing to a poor floating season and a dull market. Excise revenue showed an increase of some Rs. 13 lakhs. Under stamps depression of trade and the collapse of the land boom in Rangoon reduced the sale of commercial stamps, but produced a corresponding increase in the sale of court-fee stamps. Provincial expenditure was shown in the accounts as Rs. 1·82 crores in excess of that of 1921-22; but the bulk of this large apparent increase was explained by loans made from, and expenditure on railway construction debited to, the rice control profits fund, which under a system of commercial accounts would have been treated as capital expenditure. The municipalities as a whole succeeded in attaining financial equilibrium in the year under review. There was a general increase in income, and except in Rangoon expenditure was reduced. District funds were less successful, but the year was one of abnormal difficulty for these funds, owing to the change in administration. The receipts of the Rangoon Port Trust more than covered expenditure thanks to a continued increase of traffic. A loan of Rs. 50 lakhs was made to the Port Commissioners from the rice control profits fund, for the financing of capital works. Another loan of Rs. 10 lakhs was made from the same fund to the Rangoon Development Trust, for the general development of the town.

14. The statistics of public health for 1922 indicate a death-rate slightly higher than in 1921, but considerably below the average for the previous five years. There were more deaths from most recorded

causes, but most noticeably from plague, cholera and small-pox. Attention was paid to the subject of popular health education in Rangoon under the auspices of the Indian Red Cross Society. The birth-rate was rather lower than in the previous year, and the rate of infantile mortality considerably higher. Good progress was made with hospital construction during the year, and five new maternity wards, mainly the result of private charity, were completed. The Government Medical School continued to grow in popularity. A provincial Public Health Board was formed during the year, with both advisory and administrative functions. Its attention was mainly devoted to questions concerning water-supply and lay-out plans for various towns and to the Rangoon port health administration. With an increase in the incidence of small-pox there was rather more vaccination done than in the previous year ; but short-sighted obstruction was in some parts reported to have been engineered by political associations.

15. The year was one of steady progress in education, without any sensational changes. The divisional boards which had held control of vernacular education for several years were dissolved and replaced by district school boards, offshoots of the new district councils. Among other events may be mentioned a conference on Chin education, held to settle knotty questions of script and dialect, the transfer of the Government School of Engineering from the control of the Education Department to that of the Development Commissioner and a governing body, the provincialization of state scholarships, the introduction of English teaching in vernacular schools, the establishment of a provident fund for teachers, and the introduction of a scheme for the medical inspection of English and Anglo-vernacular schools. Progress in the higher branches of education was shown by an increase of over 200 students at the University and of nearly 11,500 pupils in secondary schools. At the University recovery from the boycott was numerically complete, and the colleges reached the limit of their capacity. There was a decrease in attendance at primary schools, but the decline was entirely confined to lower primary classes, and was due to the working of the comparatively new salary-grant system, which led to the disregistration of the smaller and less efficient primary schools. Even in primary schools the attendance in upper primary classes increased. One of the most satisfactory features of the statistics was an increase of 4,000 in the number of girls under instruction. The monastic schools are reported to be gradually overcoming their prejudice against the admission of girls.

PART II.

DEPARTMENTAL CHAPTERS.

NOTE.—The departmental reports and other references on which this *Report on the Administration of Burma* is based, are noted at the beginning of each chapter. The departmental reports do not all cover the same period. The Reports on the Administration of Civil and Criminal Justice, the Police, and Prisons, on the Registration Department, the Measures adopted with a view to exterminating Wild Animals and Venomous Snakes, Hospitals and Dispensaries, Lunatic Asylums, and the Public Health Administration, the Report of the Chemical Examiner, and the Report on the Working of the Indian Factories Act deal with events which took place within the calendar year 1922. The Shan States, Chin Hills and North-Eastern Frontier Reports, the Land Revenue and Land Records Administration Reports, the Season and Crop Report, the Report on the Working of the Co-operative Societies Act and the Report of the Department of Agriculture are concerned with the agricultural year from the 1st July 1922 to the close of June 1923. All other reports cover the twelve months of the official or financial year that ended on the 31st March 1923.

CHAPTER I.

PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

REFERENCES—

Report on the Administration of the Shan and Karenni States for the year ended the 30th June 1923.

Report on the Administration of the Chin Hills for the year ended the 30th June 1923.

Report on the North-Eastern Frontier for the year ended the 30th June 1923.

Season and Crop Report of Burma for the year ending the 30th June 1923.

Report on the Land Records Administration of Burma for the year ended the 30th June 1923.

Report on the Civil Veterinary Department (including the Insein Veterinary School), Burma, for the year ended the 31st March 1923.

Report on the Public Health Administration of Burma for the year 1922.

PHYSICAL.

Physical Features of the Country, Area, Climate and Chief Staples.

For information on this subject reference should be made to paragraphs 1 to 8 of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1921-22.

POLITICAL.

Historical Summary.

For information on this subject reference should be made to paragraphs 9 to 18 of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1921-22.

Form of Administration.

For information on this subject reference should be made to paragraphs 19 to 42 of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1921-22.

Character of Land Tenures : System of Survey and Settlement.

For information on this subject reference should be made to paragraphs 43 to 56 of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1921-22.

Civil Divisions of British Territory.

For information on this subject reference should be made to paragraphs 57 to 67 of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1921-22.

Details of the last Census : Tribes and Languages.

For information on this subject reference should be made to paragraphs 68 to 75 of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1921-22.

Changes in the Administration.

Head of the Province and Executive Council.

1. The Hon'ble Sir Reginald Henry Craddock, K.C.S.I., I.C.S., was Lieutenant-Governor of Burma until the close of the year 1922. His Excellency Sir Spencer Harcourt Butler, G.C.I.E., K.C.S.I., I.C.S., previously Governor of the United Provinces, assumed charge as Governor of Burma on his arrival at Rangoon on 2nd January 1923, when he took the oaths of allegiance and of office, Burma becoming a Governor's province under the Government of India Act on that date. The Hon'ble Mr. W. J. Keith, C.I.E., I.C.S., and the Hon'ble Mr. Maung Kin were appointed members of the Governor's Executive Council. The Hon'ble Mr. J. A. Maung Gyi and the Hon'ble U Maung Gyee became Ministers.

Administrative Territorial Changes.

2. A rearrangement of civil divisions, affecting the boundaries of all the previously existing divisions except Arakan, was carried out in December 1922. In Lower Burma, a new Rangoon Division, consisting of the Rangoon Town, Hanthawaddy and Insein Districts, was constituted. The Pegu Division was compensated for the loss of these districts by the transfer to it of the Toungoo District from the Tenasserim Division and the Thayetmyo District from the Magwe Division. In Upper Burma the Magwe and Meiktila Divisions ceased to exist. The Mandalay Division was reconstituted so as to consist of the Mandalay

District, the four districts of the old Meiktila Division, and Minbu and Magwe from the old Magwe Division. The Sagaing Division was renamed the North-West Border Division, and was enlarged by the transfer to it of the Pakôkku District and Pakôkku Hill Tracts from the old Magwe Division, and of the Katha District from the old Mandalay Division. The remainder of the old Mandalay Division, the districts of Bhamo, Myitkyina and Putao, were linked with the Shan States in a new Commissioner's charge, known as the North-East Frontier Division.

The Kale Subdivision in the Upper Chindwin District was enlarged by the addition to it of the Mingin and Kyabin Townships, which formerly constituted the Mingin Subdivision. The boundaries of the three subdivisions in the Putao District were amended. The two subdivisions of the Kyauksè District were abolished. Minor rectifications and amendments of boundaries were made in the Katha District, the Shwebo District and the Bassein Subdivision.

Additions to and Changes in the Administrative Staff.

3. *General and Judicial Administration.*—The High Court of Judicature at Rangoon was established by letters patent of His Majesty on the 18th December 1922, and consists of a Chief Justice and seven other Judges. It has jurisdiction, as the highest court of civil appeal and of criminal appeal and revision, over the whole of Burma exclusive of the Upper Burma "backward tracts." Before the establishment of the High Court, similar jurisdiction was exercised for Lower Burma by the Chief Court of Lower Burma, and for Upper Burma by the Judicial Commissioner of Upper Burma. Two additional temporary Judges have been appointed, making in all ten, of whom two sit at Mandalay.

The Superior Judicial Service was reorganized during the year and now consists of 22 District and Sessions Judges, 16 in Lower Burma and 6 in Upper Burma.

A new service called the Burma Frontier Service was constituted on the 20th December 1922, to provide officers for service in the Shan States, the Kachin Hills and the Chin Hills. Consequential alterations were effected at the same time in the cadre of the provincial and subordinate executive services.

Police.—A post of Superintendent in the Imperial Service was substituted for one of Deputy Superintendent, River Division, Rangoon. An additional post of Deputy Superintendent in the Criminal Investigation Department was sanctioned and the number of temporary appointments in the rank of Deputy Superintendent was reduced from 20 to 10.

Law Officers.—The Government Prosecutor is now known as the Public Prosecutor.

Education.—The post of Editor of Vernacular School Text-Books was abolished and a new post of Assistant Inspector of Schools, Rangoon Circles I and II, created. A temporary post of Instructor in Needle-work and Dress-making was also created during the year.

Public Works.—A post of Superintendent of Public Works Department Dredgers on a permanent non-pensionable basis and one of Rangoon Estate Officer, equivalent in rank to an Executive Engineer, were created during the year. The post of Assistant Secretary, Public Works Department, was abolished with effect from the 27th November 1922 and sanction was accorded to the creation of the temporary post of Additional Under Secretary, Public Works Department, Buildings and Roads Branch, with effect from the 28th November 1922. The Engineering Department of Public Health and the Electrical Service were

reconstituted on a permanent non-pensionable basis. The sanction of the Secretary of State was received during the year to the revised cadre of the Indian Service of Engineers, to the separation of the Irrigation from the Buildings and Roads Branch, and to the consequent redistribution of circle and divisional charges in both branches. By this redistribution irrigation works and waterways throughout the province were grouped into three circles—the Northern Irrigation Circle comprising the Shwebo, Ye-u and Mandalay canals, the Southern Irrigation Circle comprising the irrigation works and surveys in the Kyauksè, Meiktila, Yamèthin and Minbu Districts, and the Delta Circle comprising the embankments, waterways, navigation canals and surveys in Lower Burma. The Buildings and Roads Branch was divided into nine charges, eight corresponding to the eight civil divisions and one a construction charge with headquarters at Rangoon. A temporary appointment of Quantity Surveyor was sanctioned from September 1922.

Geological Surveys.—The proposal of the Local Government to have a party of the Geological Survey of India permanently stationed in Burma was accepted by the Government of India and a Superintendent of the Geological Survey of India with the necessary subordinate staff has been posted to Burma.

Income-tax.—The proposals for the organization of a self-contained Income-tax Department in Burma were sanctioned and a wholetime Commissioner of Income-tax for Burma was appointed.

Department of Industries.—The appointment of Director of Industries was abolished during the year and the control of the department was vested in the Development Commissioner. Consequent upon the abolition of this appointment, the appointments of Personal Assistant to the Director of Industries, Assistant Director of Commercial Intelligence and two Circle Officers were also extinguished. One of the Joint Registrars of Co-operative Societies was appointed Superintendent of Cottage Industries in addition to his ordinary duties, and a temporary appointment of Pottery Expert under his control was created for a period of two years with a view to the development of the pottery industry in Burma. Towards the close of the year the Government Technical Institute, Insein, was transferred from the control of the Education Department to that of the Department of Industries. The staff was re-organised and a time-scale of pay was introduced.

Agricultural Department.—A temporary appointment of Agricultural Engineer was created for a period of one year. The entertainment of a temporary Research Assistant in Chemistry in the Mandalay Agricultural College was sanctioned for a period of three years.

Forest Department.—One Forest Engineer was transferred from the Andamans to Burma during the course of the year. Four appointments of Senior Timber Assistants, together with six appointments of Junior Timber Assistants, were sanctioned on a temporary basis for five years. A European Gardener on a permanent basis was appointed during the year and the creation of the post of Upper Grade Assistant to the Wood Seasoning Expert was sanctioned towards the close of the year.

Consequent on the institution of the Shan States Federation during the year, all forests in the Shan States were withdrawn from the control of the Chief Conservator of Forests and formed into a separate independent unit under the control of a Principal Forest Officer and of the Commissioner, North-East Frontier Division, who exercise the powers of Conservator and Chief Conservator respectively as far as the Federation is concerned.

Relations with Tributary States and Frontier Affairs.

(*i*) *Shan and Karenni States.*

[*Federated Shan States, comprising Northern and Southern Shan States : six Northern States, area 20,156 square miles, population 585,924 ; 35 Southern States, area 36,157 square miles, population 847,618. Karenni : four States, area 4,280 square miles, population 63,850, tribute Rs. 5,350. Hsawnghsup. (Thaungdut) : area 529 square miles, population 7,043, tribute Rs. 400. Singkaling Hkāmti (Zingalein Kanti) : area 983 square miles, population 2,287, tribute Rs 100. Hkāmti Lōng (Kantigyi) or Bhor Hkāmti ; area 200 square miles, population 7,673, tribute Rs. 2,433.*]

Shan States Federation.

4. The federation of the Northern and Southern Shan States, the main features of which were described briefly in paragraph 21 of the Report on the Administration of Burma for the year 1921-22, was inaugurated on the 1st October 1922 ; and the first session of the Federal Council of Shan Chiefs was opened by His Excellency the Governor on the 28th March 1923. All the *Sawbwas* attended, except one who was prevented by illness, while the lesser Chiefs were represented by four *Myosas*. During the session rules of procedure were drawn up, the budget was discussed and approved, the extension of various provisions of the law to the Shan States was recommended, rules under the Highway Act were drawn up, and road programmes and other subjects connected with development were discussed. The results of this first session were described as promising, and the Chiefs were reported to have shown a real sense of public spirit and responsibility.

One of the most important items in the finances of the Federation is forest revenue. The Chiefs had for some time put forward claims to a larger share in the forests of their States ; and with a view to associating them in the management of the forests and securing their interest in their development and preservation, it was decided that forest revenue should be credited to the Shan States Federation and that forest administration should be a charge on its funds. The Commissioner was empowered as a Chief Conservator of Forests for the Federation area, while the work of direction was entrusted to the senior Divisional Forest Officer in the area as Principal Forest Officer. It was not found possible during the year under report, however, to bring the staff up to the sanctioned scale ; while the subordinate establishment was still unsettled. Little progress, therefore, was made in development. The estimate of forest revenue for the year was Rs. 8·37 lakhs, but owing to an unfavourable floating season realization fell short of this by some Rs. 1·54. Expenditure, including a percentage due to the Government of Burma for the collection of royalty by the Kado and Agency Division, amounted to Rs. 1·59 lakhs.

Another important item in the Federation budget is public works. Under the scheme of federation it was designed that all the staff previously maintained by the Provincial Government in the Shan States and by the individual States should be amalgamated to form a staff for the Federation, and that all public works expenditure in the Federation area, except that under central heads and on military police buildings, should be funded from Federation funds. Unfortunately confusion

occurred in connection with the budget in the opening year, and work was in consequence much hampered.

The Federation also took over responsibility for the principle public hospitals and dispensaries in the States and for expenditure on education. The record of attendances shows that these hospitals and dispensaries continued to inspire increasing confidence ; and excellent work was done by a travelling dispensary in the Myelat. There was little change in the apathy of the Shans generally towards education, but it is hoped that the transfer of expenditure on this subject from the States to the Federation will result in more rapid progress in future. The most important educational work continued to be done by the Roman Catholic and American Baptist Missions.

Northern Shan States.

5. On the Chinese frontier the year was quiet, although rumours of impending attack by trans-frontier Atsis caused unusual military police activity. The usual frontier meeting with Chinese officials took place at Nawngma in January 1923 : but the Chinese *Taoyin*, a genial ex-Brigadier-General, proved more than usually unwilling to settle any question of importance.

The Burma Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1922, was extended to the Northern Shan States with a view to checking the pilfering of mining and other material at Namtu and Bawdwin. The Burma rules regulating quarrying for stone and the extraction of unreserved timber for purposes of trade were also extended to the States. The strength of the military police remained unaltered ; and the discipline of the force and their relations with the inhabitants were good. Health was satisfactory. There was no change in the sanctioned strength of the Government civil police ; but the actual strength fell short by 55. The conduct of the additional force at Namtu and Bawdwin showed improvement. The number of offences reported to the Government police was about the same as in the previous year, but there was a small reduction in those reported to the State police. There was a corresponding decrease in the number of cases dealt with by the courts. There was no organized crime, and the bulk of the crime was committed by aliens. There was a small decrease in civil litigation.

Except in Möngmit rainfall conditions were very good, and crops were generally excellent. Work was started on a new lease of 6,000 acres near Hsumhsai to a European firm, for cotton and other cultivation, which will, it is hoped, prove a valuable example to the Shans of modern scientific methods of intensive cultivation. Within reach of the mining activities of the Burma Corporation, wages continued high and labour scarce ; but there was a tendency for wages to fall in other parts. There was an increase of Rs. 77·71 lakhs in the value of exports into Burma, mainly due to the more intensive production of lead and silver from the mines of the Burma Corporation, Limited, which paid its first dividend during the year. After lead, tea formed the most valuable item in the list of exports. Imports from Burma showed an increase in value of Rs. 140·21 lakhs, ascribed to the growing requirements of the Burma Corporation, the good harvests in the States, and the falling prices of merchandise in Burma. The year was unusually prosperous in all the States ; but the Kachins of the Kodaung suffered from destruction of their crops by rats and hail. The total revenue of the States showed an increase of Rs. 1·20 lakhs. The health of the people generally was good, but there were sporadic outbreaks of small-pox in several parts, while Hsipaw suffered somewhat severely from plague.

Southern Shan States.

6. Nothing occurred to disturb the peace of the Siamese frontier, but there was much nervousness in villages along the Chinese border, owing to constant unrest in Yünnan. In the Möng Yawng Circle of Kēngtūng the local *Myosa* entered into conspiracy to withdraw his circle from the jurisdiction of the Kēngtūng *Sawbwa*, hoping that it might be directly administered by Government. The affair was settled without disturbance of any sort by the dismissal of the *Myosa* and the punishment of the real author of the scheme, an *ex*-clerk from Kēngtūng. The internal administration of the Chiefs was, with few exceptions, satisfactory. Some progress was made in the accurate assessment of land revenue. The Mawsön State, of which the Chief had died in the previous year leaving no heirs, was incorporated with Yawnghwe. Two Chiefs died during the year. A successor was appointed to one of them, but the other's place remained vacant.

A military police post at Bampon was abolished and the Kalaw post was handed over to the civil police. The strength of the military police was in consequence reduced and that of the civil police increased by 20 men, but no other changes took place in the sanctioned strength of either force. The discipline of the military police was good and there was again an improvement in the results of musketry training. The Government civil police were slightly short of their sanctioned strength, owing to an enhancement of the physical standard required in recruits. The number of cases reported to the Government police at Taunggyi and Kalaw was 259, against 231 in the previous year; while cases reported to the State police fell from 897 to 713. The percentage of detection in the latter cases was poor. The quality of the State police continued to suffer from insufficiency of pay. The administration of criminal justice in the Chiefs' courts was generally based on sound justice. Civil litigation increased in both Government and Chiefs' courts. Jail discipline continued lax and escapes were frequent.

The rains were unusually good and a good paddy crop was secured. Potatoes did well, as also tea and ginger. Oranges failed in Lawksawk and Möng Hsü, though the crop was good elsewhere. Owing to heavy rain in Kēngtūng a good deal of the opium crop failed. A reduction of poppy cultivation is being sought by enhancement of the tax of Rs. 3 per garden. Wages still ruled high, in spite of a fall in the price of rice. Again there was no influx of Maingtha or Chinese workmen. Mining activity continued in the Myelat States; but work on the coal beds near Kalaw was disappointing. The total registered trade of the Southern Shan States showed an increase of Rs. 9·76 lakhs in value, mainly under exports. Prices continued high and living expensive; but the standard of comfort seems also to be rising. The total revenue of the States increased slightly to Rs. 15·89 lakhs, a sum less by some Rs. 27,500 than the total expenditure. The general health of the people was good and the year was remarkably free from epidemic disease. There were sporadic outbreaks of small-pox, and consequently somewhat greater interest than usual was shown towards vaccination.

Karenni States.

7. The Karenni States had another uneventful year. Ordinary crime on the whole was slightly less, but violent crime increased, partly owing to the depredations of an organised band of dacoits. The crop outturn was fair; but the effects of the previous year's famine in some of the hill tracts was still felt, and

there was some trouble in Kyebogyi over the collection of *thathameda*. Endeavours to persuade the cultivators to adopt new crops met with little success. Kantarawadi and Bawlakè are severely hit by the cessation of forest activity. The Chiefs have, however, wisely agreed to a policy of further restriction of the output of teak. Both States are spending from their reserves and their financial position will want very careful nursing. To the disappointment of all concerned, the Mawchi mines, on revenue from which the finances of Bawlakè largely depend, were not re-opened during the year ; but a land revenue assessment was introduced in both Kantarawadi and Bawlakè and, though no very great increase of revenue can be expected immediately, it is something that a beginning has been made. The States, however, have not yet arrived at their leanest years and much trouble is still ahead of them. The Chiefs prefer to maintain their status, as assured them by their *sanads*, rather than come under the Federation. No expansion under medical or education heads is therefore possible. For the present, Government grants continue to be made, but final orders as to how these are to be fixed in future have not yet been passed.

Other Shan States.

8. The year was quiet in the small Shan States in the Upper Chindwin District. Relations between the Kanti Shans, and the Nagas of the adjoining unadministered tracts were friendly, and the usual bartering of produce took place. No threats were sent to the *Sawbwa* by the Nagas, although raids on neighbouring villages in the unadministered tracts took place. Trade between Thaungdut and Manipur continued to increase. The health of the people was good ; but many cattle were lost from disease in Thaungdut. Crops in Thaungdut were good, but in Kanti much damage was done by insects.

(*ii*) *The Chin Hills.*

(The Chin Hills District : area approximately 8,550 square miles, population 110,079. The Pakôkku Hill Tracts : area approximately 3,100 square miles, population 28,799. The Hill District of Arakan : area approximately 3,000 square miles, population 20,914. Tracts in the Upper Chindwin, Akyab and Kyaukpyu Districts.)

9. Peace reigned generally throughout the Chin Hills and, with the exception of one reported inter-village raid in the previously unadministered area which was recently brought under control, and of three cases of murder, crime was almost negligible. The cessation of feuds in the newly administered area is a question of time. The Assistant Superintendent of the Somra Tract in the Upper Chindwin District had a meeting with the Political Agent of Manipur and with the Deputy Commissioner of the Naga Hills, with whom the western boundary of the Somra Tract was defined, and it was arranged that the unadministered area between the Somra Tract and Manipur should be taken over by the Manipur State. The danger of raids from unadministered area is thus diminished. A good agricultural season and bountiful crops were enjoyed in all areas. Tribute was collected without difficulty, although in the Pakôkku Hill Tracts the total was raised from Rs. 4,075 to Rs. 7,376 with the enhancement of the rate from Re. 1 to Rs. 2 per house. In the Hill District of Arakan, where several successive poor seasons had made it impossible to collect the land and capitation-taxes in full, the heavy arrears were practically paid up, as well as the

bulk of the current year's demand. Military service continued popular with the Chins, and recruits were readily forthcoming for the Chin battalion of the Burma Rifles. Contact with the outside world involved in such service is bound to have a civilizing effect in time, although at present the tendency of returned soldiers to waste their earnings and relapse into quasi-savagery is more noticeable. Progress in education in the Chin Hills District is hoped for with the decision to abandon the attempt to teach in Burmese, and to adopt the Laizo dialect in all schools, with the addition of English where suitable. As in the Shan States the most important educational work is at present done in missionary schools.

(*iii*) *The Kachin Hill Tracts.*

(*The Putao District and Tracts in the Myitkyina, Bhamo and Katha Districts.*)

10. The year was peaceful along the whole North-Eastern Frontier, although owing to rumours of likely reprisals after the Muse raid of March 1922, temporary posts in the Bhamo District were manned for a short time. The addition of the Kachin Hill Tracts of the Katha District to the Mogaung Subdivision brought the whole of the Kachin tracts into a single administrative area : this change took effect from the 1st July 1923. The Bumhkang military police outpost was withdrawn. A proposal for an outpost at Chingnanbum to guard the long stretch between Sumprabum and Fort Hertz, which the withdrawal of the Bumhkang post made essential in view of the unadministered territory to the east, was under consideration. A Durbar held by the Commissioner, North-East Frontier Division, at Fort Hertz was well attended, influential Kachin Chiefs from across the administrative border being present. Enlistment for the Burma Rifles proceeded among the Lisus and Nungs of the Putao District, but local jealousies hindered recruiting in Myitkyina.

Violent crime cases were few and mostly due to ordinary causes. A party of Chinese traders from Têngyüeh who were being carried in chairs to Bhamo were attacked on the Burma side of the frontier and wounded, their property being stolen. One died later at Têngyüeh. Some of the property was subsequently made over to the Assistant Superintendent by villagers, and the group of villages near which the affair occurred were fined for suppressing evidence. Criminal cases decreased in Putao, Bhamo and Katha, but increased in Myitkyina largely as the result of prosecutions for poppy cultivation. Enforcement of this law in the other districts was apparently relaxed. Some cases brought for discussion to Konglu were said to be 50 years old. A man charged with selling as a slave a boy whom he had enticed from his home in Myitkyina Town was convicted. The Public Works Department inspection bungalow at Namkhan was burnt and enquiry disclosed strong objections by the Kachins to strangers, even if Kachins, being employed as durwans. Four cases of deportation under the Kachin Hill Tribes Regulation were reported. Civil cases increased ; the civil work of the *Sawbwas* in Putao was apparently slovenly and biassed while in Bhamo a tendency by the *Taungôks* to disregard the *Duwas'* authority was noted as undesirable. In Katha elaborate argument of local customs must precede mutual agreement, the only decision which is acceptable.

The *thathameda* tax was collected for the first time in Putao District from persons other than Shans and hill tribes. The rate of

tribute is being increased in Myitkyina to Rs. 2-8 by yearly increases of annas 8 and in Bhamo to Rs. 3 from Rs. 2-8 per household with a paddy tax on low-land paddy-fields. Collections increased except in Myitkyina where early rains prevented *taungya* burning.

The 1921 conference of officers recorded that prohibition of poppy growing be accompanied by the regulated provision of opium to Kachins for whom it is regarded as a necessity, but as no such action has been taken, the problem remains the most serious of the frontier. A small number of transit passes were issued. Smuggling from China, where it is freely grown, over the border continued, and numerous seizures were made.

The output of jade diminished in volume and value compared with 1921-22, the best coming from Hwehka Mines. The number of people at the mines was again large but practically no crime resulted. An English prospector opened up an old shaft at Kansi with moderate success. The quantity of amber brought in was smaller but the value greater. Small activities in gold dredging took place, and a petition to reopen the Nanyaseik ruby mines, closed in 1907, was received. The number of registered guns was unaltered, increases in Bhamo (8) and Putao (82) being offset by decreases in Myitkyina (85) and Katha (5). The Public Works Department Independent Subdivision was abolished but road communications were improved, especially in the N'Mai valley (Putao District), the hill tracts in Myitkyina and the Sinlum-Kachin tracts, Bhamo. Existing roads and mule tracts were maintained everywhere.

Lieutenant-Colonel Rich, R.E., who completed the survey of the Hukong Valley, reported that the practice of human sacrifice is confined to a small area of the unadministered Naga Hills and that, contrary to previous information, no Indians have been sacrificed since 1921, the victims being chiefly Nagas bought from the head-hunting villages. The influence of two Kachin overlords of these Nagas, who warned the villagers that sacrifice of Indians would bring trouble, was efficacious in stopping such sacrifice. Some Indian slaves were found in the Hukong who appeared to lack the desire for freedom. One who had said he was happy where he was subsequently attempted to leave but was detained.

Sub-Assistant Surgeons touring with Assistant Superintendents treated over 3,000 cases and vaccinated 1,100 persons. An outbreak of cholera among Chinese coolies returning from the jade mines spread through the villages round Myitkyina. The travelling dispensary toured the hills in the Bhamo District for six months, 10,906 cases being treated. The Sub-Assistant Surgeon touring in Shwegu treated 827 cases, goitre, which was the most frequent, being beneficially affected by injections of tincture of iodine. Education which progresses very slowly was mainly of the technical kind, weaving, carpentry and blacksmith's work. In the Kauri tract the Kachins are asking for plank floors for their houses and have begun to make bridges.

Condition of the People.

11. The season was on the whole poor for the rice crop in Lower Burma, owing to excessive rain and floods in July and August, and to poor and capricious late rains, with storms just before the harvest. In Upper Burma a failure of the early rains destroyed the early sessamum,

but in many districts good rice and island crops provided some compensation. In both parts of the province unfavourable weather conditions resulted in or were accompanied by disease of crops and blight by insects. Most districts were comparatively free from serious attacks of cattle disease ; but the Upper Chindwin and Amherst suffered severely from rinderpest, while anthrax took serious toll in Mergui. The price of rice ruled lower than in the previous year, owing to a weak Far-Eastern and Indian demand ; but good prices were obtained on the whole for all other crops. Vital statistics for 1922 suggest something of a decline in public health. There were more deaths from most recorded causes than in 1921, but most noticeably from plague, cholera and small-pox. The increase under fevers and that under respiratory diseases was very slight. The wave of violent and other serious crime surged higher than ever, though there was again a slight abatement under the less serious classes.

CHAPTER II.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

REFERENCES—

Report on the Land Revenue Administration of Burma during the year ended the 30th June 1923.

Report on the Land Records Administration of Burma for the year ended the 30th June 1923.

Agricultural Statistics of India, Volume I.

Realisation of the Revenue.

Changes in the Law, Rules and Directions.

12. No change was made in the law during the year under report but there have been various minor alterations in the rules and directions. Rules were made under the (Lower) Burma Land Revenue Act (1876) and under the Upper Burma Land and Revenue Regulation (1889) for the allotment, management and regulation of village common land and in connection with the commission paid on revenue collections to estate managers who are appointed as village headmen. Under the Lower Burma Town and Village Lands Act, 1898, rules were amended to prevent leases of large areas or for long terms being granted to persons who were not prepared to erect substantial houses on their house sites and the procedure was amended in cases where the Commissioner's power to sanction a lease of a site was inadequate. An amendment to the Fishery Rules removed the limit placed on the amount of earnest money that could be demanded at a fishery auction. The Oil-Fields Rules now guard more effectively against the entry of unauthorised persons into fenced areas. The most important change in the Land Revenue Directions was one by which selected Township Officers are empowered to remit or strike off as irrecoverable arrears of *thathameda*. The procedure in making certain revenue-free grants was standardised and a simplified form of capitation-tax receipt was prescribed. A new Land Acquisition Direction enables the Public Works Department to take immediate possession of land urgently required for retirements to embankments. Revised Mines and Minerals Directions amended the procedure in connection with issues and renewals of certificates of approval and prospecting licenses.

Demand, Collections, Remissions and Outstandings.

13. The current demand of land revenue was Rs. 339·66 lakhs or nearly Rs. 9½ lakhs in excess of the previous year's figures, but current collections fell by nearly a quarter of a lakh to Rs. 320·29 lakhs. Practically all last year's arrears were collected (Rs. 4·92 lakhs), a sum of Rs. ·42 lakh being remitted. Remissions of current revenue increased by nearly Rs. 10 lakhs to Rs. 14·41 lakhs owing to the serious floods in the delta and above Moulmein. Outstandings dropped by a quarter of a lakh and stood at the end of the revenue year at Rs. 5·04 lakhs.

In Lower Burma the only really serious variation from last year's figures occurs in Insein, where Rs. 5·20 lakhs had to be remitted on account of floods as compared with Rs. ·22 lakh last year, and in Ma-ubin,

where remissions increased by Rs. 2·32 lakhs to a total of Rs. 3·69 lakhs. In the other districts where there were heavy remissions on account of floods, *viz.* Hanthawaddy, Pegu, Bassein, Thatôn and Amherst, the natural expansion of cultivation went far towards preventing an appreciable decrease in the demand. Revised rates of assessment were introduced in parts of Hanthawaddy, Pegu and Tavoy. In Henzada and Pyapôn certain areas outside supplementary survey are now included which were omitted last year. There were considerable erosions by the sea in Thatôn and Amherst. Henzada shows a return to normal after the loss of revenue caused by the breach of the Eikpyet embankment last year.

In Upper Burma the season was good and in almost every district there was an increase in the land revenue demand. The exceptions were Katha where the early rains failed and Magwe. Revised rates were introduced in Sagaing.

Heavy outstandings in Akyab are largely due to an incompetent Township Officer in Maungdaw, where however the work is difficult owing to the population being almost entirely Chittagonian. In Kyaukpyu a fairly successful effort has been made to deal with the outstandings, which threatened to become chronic. In Thayetmyo the arrears have been practically wiped out since the end of the year and in Thatôn they have been struck off as irrecoverable, being due on land now eroded.

Arrears in Upper Burma are due chiefly from districts that started the year with heavy outstandings. There are complaints from several districts that the tax-tickets do not give sufficient information to enable the headmen to collect the revenue without a complete copy of the assessment roll which is no longer supplied to them. The matter is however being dealt with and the trouble should not recur.

Revenue Proceedings and Coercive Processes.

14. For the second year in succession the amount of arrears for the realisation of which coercive measures were necessary has risen by over 50 per cent. and now stands at Rs. 20·68 lakhs compared with Rs. 8·64 lakhs in 1920-21. There was a slight increase in the number of notices issued and a considerable increase in warrants of attachment of moveable property and in sales of property of both descriptions. On the other hand fewer warrants of arrest were issued and a much smaller percentage of them were executed, actual arrests falling by over one-third to 1,530. Only five persons were committed to jail. Akyab again heads the list though the figures are very much below last year's. In this district no less than 6,893 notices were required for the realisation of Rs. 58,267 whereas in the Irrawaddy Division 7,422 notices sufficed for more than ten times that sum. In Kyaukpyu there was a very heavy increase in sales of immoveable property which suggests that the rules are not properly understood. In Rangoon income-tax arrears were heavy. In certain districts political agitation was the cause of payments being delayed until coercive measures were taken.

Surveys.

Surveys by Imperial Agency.

15. Topographical survey operations were continued during the year by Nos. 10, 11 and 21 (Burma Forest Parties) of the Survey of India. No. 10 Party surveyed 2,225 square miles partly on the half-inch and partly on the one-inch scale in unadministered territory

adjoining the Myitkyina and Upper Chindwin Districts : triangulation was also carried out in Akyab and Kyaukpyu Districts in anticipation of detail survey. No. 11 Party surveyed 2,679 square miles, partly on one inch and partly on the two and four-inch scales in the Amherst District : and triangulation was also carried out in the north of the Amherst District and the Dawna Range in anticipation of detail survey. No. 21 (Forest Party) carried on survey operations on the two-inch scale in the Delta Circle (401 square miles), Tenasserim Circle (181 square miles), Sittang Circle (111 miles of boundary) and Hlaing Circle (65 miles of boundary) while an area of 392 square miles was traversed in the Bassein and Henzada Districts in anticipation of further survey. Tidal operations were continued at Rangoon and Moulmein, the tidal observation being inspected, and the tide gauges were cleaned, adjusted and left in good working order. Continuous records of self-registering instruments were obtained at the Toungoo Magnetic Observatory and daily absolute observations of magnetic elements were taken, also periodical observations for comparison. Six sheets of the one-inch scale survey, twenty-five of the half inch and seven degree sheets (four miles to the inch) were published.

Surveys by Provincial Agency: Extension and Revision Surveys.

16. In addition to surveys by the local staff the two special survey parties continued working. No. II Party, engaged on the survey of mining concessions in Tavoy and Mergui, actually carried out 12 surveys covering 12,127 acres and involving 83½ miles of traversings. The work, carried out in difficult country, was found to be satisfactory on tests and inspection. The main survey party No. 1 worked in Pegu and Hanthawaddy Districts (colonisation), Pyapôn (resurveys for settlement) and Maymyo Subdivision (original), also completing the survey of Mandalay Town, in addition to supplying staff for other purposes. An area of 58,009 acres was surveyed for colonisation works, the area traversed being 97·18 square miles involving 328 miles of line cutting. In Pyapôn an area of 150 square miles in 114 *kwins* was surveyed, and an unusual degree of co-operation between the demarcation, survey and settlement staffs was obtained. In Maymyo Subdivision where the work was done under unusual difficulties, an area of 42 square miles was traversed and 32 square miles surveyed with 143 miles of traverse. The total area on which traverse and cadastral surveys were carried out was 339 square miles of traverse and 1,228 square miles of cadastral of which 487,760 acres were occupied : the incidence of cost per acre occupied being under seven annas, a reduction on the previous year. The health of the parties was good, and their conduct, while not always satisfactory, was effectively controlled by the superintendents.

Town and Fishery Surveys, and Surveys of Leased Areas.

17. Town surveys were carried on in Akyab, Waw (Pegu), Myaungmya, Kyaikto, Kawlin and Mandalay. Rangoon Town is now in the charge of the Rangoon Development Trust. There were no fishery surveys. Non-revenue surveys were carried out in Mergui and Tavoy of mineral mines, also of rubber estates in Mergui. The defective condition of boundary marks in towns and of demarcation posts of grazing grounds is emphasised.

Settlements.

Progress of Settlements.

18. Three settlement parties were at work in the Shwebo, Pyapôn and Mandalay Districts respectively during the year ended 30th June 1923. The Shwebo party completed the field work for the entire settlement area and compilation was expected to be finished by October 1923, sanction being given for an extension of the sanctioned period. Soil classification and connected enquiries were carried out over the whole of Ye-u Canal area. The occupied area classified was 149,836 acres. The initial report on the Pyapôn settlement dealing with 1,350 square miles of which the area occupied is 705,108 acres was submitted in August 1922, and the Local Government accepted the recommendations of a conference held in the following November. The new rates on the tracts, covering one-third of the settlement area having an occupied area of 237,189 acres were notified to come into effect from 1st July 1923. The record of rights was introduced in 13 tracts of the area. Settlement work in Mandalay District begun in May 1922 continued throughout the year, field operations for the initial report being completed in the year under review. The area in which enquiries were made was 267,511 acres in the plains and 6,294 acres in Maymyo Subdivision. The procedure recommended by the Revenue Committee was followed in Pyapôn and Mandalay. The proposed resettlement of Yamèthin Subdivision had to be postponed.

Financial Results and Expenditure.

19. Orders were passed during the year on the report of the Mergui settlement (the rates being notified with effect from July 1st, 1923) and on the initial report of the Pyapôn settlement. The report on the Kyauksè settlement completed in the previous year was received, also the report on the Kadônbaw Colony (Hanthawaddy). The demand sanctioned in Mergui amounted to Rs. 3·18 lakhs, a decrease of ·76 per cent. The demand provisionally sanctioned for the Pyapôn area was Rs. 26·49 lakhs, an increase of 21 per cent. For the ten tracts in which classification was completed the demand sanctioned is Rs. 9·96 lakhs, an increase of 28·14 per cent. The rates in both districts are notified for 20 years. The gross effect of the rates sanctioned is estimated to be an enhancement of Rs. 2·16 lakhs or 19·70 per cent. The expenditure of all settlement parties during the year was Rs. 3·08 lakhs.

Land Records.

Area under Supplementary Survey.

20. An increase of over 90,000 acres was shown in the rural area under supplementary survey, and of 2,181 acres in the urban area, the total being 31,995,394 acres and 180,598 acres respectively. The rural occupied area rose by 200,632 acres, to which all but five districts contributed, the highest increase being 43,000 in the south of Myaungmya District. The occupied area in towns (including cultivated) fell to 127,054 acres, a decrease of 815 acres.

Cost of Supplementary Survey.

21. Although the strength of the establishment was diminished, the total cost of the Land Records Department rose by Rs. ·77 lakh to Rs. 21·69 lakhs (equal to 5·80 per cent. of the total assessment), or including the cost of survey schools and an allowance for administrative charges to

Rs. 23·76 lakhs, equal to 6·3 per cent. of the total assessment excluding cess or 5·97 per cent. including cess.

Training of Officers.

22. The number of Government survey schools remained unaltered at 17 with a daily average on the roll of 246 pupils as against 298 in 1921-22, the number on the rolls at the end of the year being 242 against 284. School fees were paid by 37 pupils. Applications for admission to the schools numbered 452 (as against 623 in 1921-22 when the pay and prospects of the establishment had been improved) and 100 were rejected or withdrew on failure to obtain scholarship. In addition to the scholarship holders, 70 relatives of *thugyis* or of poor agriculturists were exempted from fees. The educational qualifications of pupils improved, especially of those who went through the whole course. Expenditure increased considerably under the head of bonuses for successful candidates and contingencies ; and each pupil presented for the final examination in surveying cost Government on an average Rs. 185 against Rs. 174 in 1921-22 ; in Lower Chindwin five pupils presented cost Rs. 527 each, whereas in Pakôkku they only cost Rs. 125. Examination results were best in revenue law wherein 209 survey school students passed out of 232, whereas in surveying only 183 passed out of 268 and in arithmetic 126 out of 221. Of the 213 who qualified in 1922, 123 joined the Land Records Department as probationers and others were registered for employment when vacancies occur. The system of recruiting through survey schools was examined and as in many districts the supply exceeded demand, it was decided to close 13 out of the 17 old schools leaving only four old schools at Moulmein, Bassein, Ma-ubin and Minbu with new schools at Kyauksè and Prome and a Central Training School for Upper Burma at Shwebo under the superintendence of the Officer-in-charge, Special Surveys. Scholarships and remission of fees have been restricted to districts where recruits are lacking and the school curriculum has been altered excluding revenue law and retaining only so much of arithmetic as is needed for the surveying course. In districts without schools the Superintendent will henceforth train such recruits as he requires. Seven officers were under probation of whom two passed and were confirmed, one passed and was deferred, three completed their survey course and were under practical training and one left before completing his training. No new probationers were appointed.

Transfers of Land.

23. The area sold during the year was 620,831 acres, an increase of 15,227 acres on the area sold in 1921-22. The percentage of land sold, 5·6 in Lower Burma and 0·7 in Upper Burma, remains practically unaltered. Bassein and Thatôn reported increases in the area sold, the cause in Bassein being demand for land by speculators and losses by cultivators ; while in Thatôn, the rise in values was taken advantage of by owners to redeem mortgages and sell their land at profit. Myaungmya reported a decrease owing to prices asked for land being high. In Upper Burma increases in sale were generally reported owing to speculation and bad seasons : Mandalay's decrease is attributed to concealment of transactions, and Kyauksè had a good agricultural season. The sale value of land which rose from Rs. 67 in 1920-21 to Rs. 73 in 1921-22 has again risen to Rs. 89. A large rise in Insein is due mainly to speculation in suburban property : the Delta districts show considerable increases but in Upper Burma values are either stationary or tend to fall. The area mortgaged

rose to 594,489 acres, an increase of 110,246 acres, the mortgage value increasing from Rs. 56 to Rs. 66 per acre in conformity with the increase in sale values. Most land was mortgaged to finance speculation in paddy and trade, while in some districts increased cost of cultivation due to floods and lower prices of produce caused mortgages to be effected.

Waste Lands.

Grants and Leases for Cultivation.

24. A heavy decrease in area merely represents a return to normal: 1920-21—16,223 acres; 1921-22—70,991 acres; 1922-23—14,481 acres. In no district did the area exceed 2,600 acres.

Revenue-free Grants of Land and Assignments of Land Revenue.

25. The area granted revenue free for religious purposes rose from 133 to 179 acres, but in no district did the area amount to as much as 30 acres. The area granted revenue free for public purposes fell from 31 to 23 acres. The area granted or leased as an appanage of the office of village headmen rose from 404 to 1,043 acres as the result of the lease of 845 acres to headmen in co-operative colonies in Pegu District. The total annual value of assignments of land revenue made during the year was Rs. 690 compared with Rs. 795 last year.

Government Estates and Wards' Estates.

26. The Rangoon Development Trust was established on the 1st February 1921, to take charge of the administration and development of the Government estate in Rangoon having a total area of 3,132 acres scattered over sixteen survey charges and to undertake the general development of the city from separate revenues specially assigned for that purpose. It is also responsible for the survey and land records and town lands administration of the city on behalf of the Local Government. On the 31st March 1923 the area of the Government estate stood at 3,089 acres as the result of transfers to and from Government, the Burma Railways and the Corporation, 1,452 acres being waste land and 1,637 acres occupied land, the unreclaimed land having been reduced during 1922-23 by 251 acres, and the reclaimed area correspondingly increased. The revenue from the Government estate in the year of report was Rs. 12·88 lakhs and after the payment of charges a sum of Rs. 5·85 lakhs was transferred to capital account.

The general development of Rangoon is financed by the proceeds of a terminal tax of Rs. 2 on all adult males leaving Burma by sea from Rangoon, which produced Rs. 4·24 lakhs; a transfer duty of 2 per cent. on the value of transfers of immoveable property in Rangoon, which produced Rs. 2·84 lakhs; and a fixed contribution from the Rangoon Corporation of Rs. 1 lakh. These sums with small items for interest and miscellaneous produced a total revenue for general development of Rs. 8·12 lakhs, and after payment of charges a sum of Rs. 7·02 lakhs was transferred to capital account. A loan of Rs. 10 lakhs for general development was obtained from the Local Government. The total receipts on capital account of the Trust, including opening balances, receipts on requisition of Government estate by the Local Government, transfer of newly-purchased land from the Government estate to the Trust estate and smaller sums, amounted to Rs. 44·13 lakhs. The

closing balance was Rs. 10·47 lakhs as against an opening balance of Rs. 2·82 lakhs. The indebtedness to the Rangoon Corporation in respect of past years amounts to Rs. 38,95,235, which is a charge on the Government estate. The land purchased for the Trust estate amounted to 65·936 acres, and 1,965·580 acres were under acquisition. On the Government estate 1,161 long leases producing a rental of Rs. 1,41,081 were issued during 1922-23 : also 35 short leases producing Rs. 1,016 and 47 licenses and permits producing Rs. 844. On reclamation Rs. 7,39,046 was spent, on communications Rs. 4,80,040 and on main drainage and water supply equipment Rs. 5,54,384.

The foundation stone of a new office building for the Trust in Montgomery Street was laid on the 14th March 1923 by His Excellency the Governor, who in his speech referred to the fact that 303 acres had been reclaimed, over 52,000 square yards of metalled roads and 10,000 square yards of laterite roads and paths had been constructed, 11,600 running feet of main drainage channels and 74,000 running feet of surface drains had been provided. "As regards house sites," said His Excellency," if all goes well, over 3,500 house sites will be made available by this time next year—1,500 for previous tenants and about 2,000 for newcomers. For financial reasons and to avoid evils which the Trust is now removing, full commercial rents are charged for all sites in and near central Rangoon ; any other policy would lead to subletting, sale at fancy prices and other undesirable features, but valuable concessions of long leases for homestead dwelling sites in the suburbs, at low rentals, are being offered to every squatter on the Government estate in central Rangoon." The charging of commercial rents for reclaimed sites in and near central Rangoon had been made the subject of vehement attack upon the Trust, whose policy in this regard was closely examined by the Local Government. In a letter dated May 9th, 1923, the Secretary, Finance and Revenue Department, said that the Governor in Council, recognising that one of the primary objects of the creation of the Trust was to ensure financial stability and resulting continuity in the work of development, had decided to support the decisions arrived at by the Trust, but added that if after a reasonable time the results fell short of anticipation, re-examination and, if necessary, re-adjustment of the Trust's methods would be desirable. His Excellency in Council considered that as regards the housing of the poorer classes the Trust in consultation with the Co-operative Department should endeavour to frame a practical scheme for assisting these classes, especially the population displaced by the Trust's operations.

Although no value had been placed on the Government estate taken over by the Trust on the 1st February 1923, for the purpose of accounting a valuation of Rs. 33,36,923 was placed on it and that amount was written off, despite which the net liabilities on 31st March 1923 stood at a figure nearly Rs. 2 lakhs below the annual surplus ; and as the liabilities were likely to be cleared off during 1923-24, the Government estate is in a strong financial position able to provide from its own revenue sufficient funds to effect its own development. The general development side of the Trust's activities, which has a stationary revenue of about Rs. 7 lakhs per annum from the terminal tax, transfer duty and Corporation contribution, will require further loans to carry out a pending programme of land acquisition to the amount of Rs. 31 lakhs. Funds will be found from revenue to develop the same and provide for irrecoverable expenditure on roads and drainage channels. The period between acquisition and sale after development is estimated at three years

in Rangoon. Hitherto a sum of Rs. 21½ lakhs has been spent on the Trust's estate, in almost equal proportion for purchase and development and about one-third of this will be irrecoverable, the balance being recouped in due course by the sale of developed sites. To enable the development of Rangoon to proceed at the rate necessitated by past stagnation and urgent present requirements, annual revenues must be anticipated by means of loans to tide over the initial unremunerative stages until a steady income from the sale of developed sites shall be received. A system of commercial accounts has been introduced by a firm of chartered accountants.

Development of outside properties on payment of the costs was carried out by the Trust to the extent of Rs. 4·43 lakhs compared with Rs. ·76 lakh in 1921-22. Active and friendly co-operation with all the concerned departments of Government, the Corporation, the Burma Railways, the Port Commissioners, the University and freeholders continued to be a feature of the Trust's operations. In connection with the new race course of the Turf Club in north-east Rangoon, extensive road widenings and reclamation of land adjoining the course are in progress. The subject of tramway extensions to the suburbs was discussed with the Rangoon Electric Tramway & Supply Company, Limited.

The Board of Trustees held 12 ordinary and two special meetings while the four Committees held 36 ordinary and two special meetings. A considerable degree of agreement was attained regarding the procedure for transference of completed works to the Corporation The organisation and working of the Engineering Department were considered by a special committee. The Trust Chairman and officials in conjunction with others investigated and reported on the proper treatment of the junction of King Edward and Queen Victoria Avenues west of the site formerly occupied by the Agri-Horticultural Gardens and now reclaimed by the Trust. The Chairman of the Trust was appointed a Commissioner of the Port of Rangoon. The Trust and the Port Commissioners are jointly interested in several projects, of which the principal are the proposed docks at Dawbon and the reclamation of the Singan swamp at Ahlone.

There are no wards' estates in Burma.

Revenue and Rent-paying Classes.

Area held by Agriculturists.

27. The area held by agriculturists increased by 110,700 acres to 14,647,634 acres mainly due to new occupation of 141,000 acres. The percentage held by agriculturists diminished slightly from 81·85 to 81·83. Wealthy owners are reported to be working land by overseers instead of tenants. In Lower Burma 74 per cent. belongs to agriculturists and in Upper Burma 92 per cent.; the former being a slight increase. Most of the land held by non-agriculturists (which in Insein and Hanthawaddy is as high as 40 per cent.) belongs to non-resident owners, who are replacin g resident owners as townsmen indulge their desire for land holding.

Tenancies.

28. The area rented at full rents was 3,878,219 acres, an increase of 66,794 acres. The proportion of occupied area rented fell from 38 to 37 per cent. in Lower Burma though it exceeded 50 per cent. in Hanthawaddy and Pyapôn and

40 per cent. in Akyab, Bassein, Insein, Tharrawaddy, Pegu and Myaungmya. Estates worked by hired labour in Pegu caused a drop of 84,000 acres. Upper Burma districts report that fixed tenancies are increasing at the expense of partnership tenancies, as the result of absentee ownership. The average rent of land over the province as a whole has risen to Rs. 22·6 per acre, a real decrease being indicated in Amherst due to remissions following floods and a real increase in Myaungmya following new settlement rates. The proportion of tenancies for over four years has increased 20 per cent. largely as the result of including partnership tenancies for the first time. Despite the high rents asked which make the tenants' chance of profit very small, the relations between landlords and tenants were generally reported satisfactory.

CHAPTER III.

PROTECTION.

REFERENCES—

Report on the Police Administration of Burma for the year 1922.
Report on the Rangoon Town Police for the year 1922.
Return showing the results of measures adopted in Burma with the view of exterminating Wild Animals and Venomous Snakes during the year 1922.
Report on the Administration of Criminal Justice in Burma for the year 1922.
Report on the Prison Administration of Burma for the year 1922.
Report on the Administration of Civil Justice in Burma for the year 1922.
Report on the Working of the Registration Department in Burma during the three years 1920 to 1922.
Report on the Working of the Indian Companies Act in Burma for the year 1922-23.
Report on the Municipal Administration of the City of Rangoon for the year 1922-23.
Review of the Reports on the Working of Municipal Committees in Burma (except Rangoon), during the year 1922-23.
Burma Lights Report for the year 1922-23.
Administration Report of the Public Works Department, Burma, Buildings and Roads Branch, for the year 1922-23.
Administration Report of the Commissioners for the Port of Rangoon from 1st April 1922 to 31st March 1923.
Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of Burma with Foreign Countries and Indian Ports for the official year 1922-23, Part III, Shipping.
Report on the Maritime Trade and Customs Administration of Burma for the official year 1922-23.
Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of British India with the British Empire and Foreign Countries, Volume II.
Annual Statement of Coasting Trade and Navigation of British India.
Statistical Abstract for British India, Volumes I, III and IV.
Report on Government Steamers, Vessels and Launches in Burma for the year 1922-23.

Legislative Authority.

The history and constitution of the legislative authority of the province are described in paragraphs 103 to 106 inclusive of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1921-22

Course of Legislation.

Work of the Legislative Council.

29. This Report is for the period 1st September 1922 to 31st August 1923. The five Bills referred to in the last year's report, *viz.*, the Burma Midwives and Nurses Bill, the Disposal of Police Officers Estates Bill, the Burma Rural Self-Government (Amendment) Bill

the City of Rangoon Municipal (Amendment) Bill, and the Rangoon Development Trust (Amendment) Bill, were passed as Burma Acts X, VIII, IX, VII and XIII of 1922, respectively, by the old Legislative Council of the Lieutenant-Governor.

The object of the City of Rangoon Municipal (Amendment) Act, VII of 1922, is to make provision for the control by the Government of India over municipal loans exceeding twenty-five lakhs.

The Disposal of Police Officers' Estates Act, VIII of 1922, is a measure designed to remove the delay caused in the disposal of the estates of deceased Indian members of the Burma Military Police. Instead of the former procedure with its report to the District Magistrate and subsequent six months' notification by him, the Act provides for the appointment of a committee on the analogy of the Army "Committee of Adjustment," and the Local Government is empowered to make rules defining the constitution and procedure of such a committee. The Act applies in the first instance only to persons who are not natives of Burma but power is reserved to extend it to other classes in view of the employment of Chins and Kachins in areas far removed from their homes.

The Burma Rural Self-Government (Amendment) Act, IX of 1922, is designed to provide for the nomination by the Local Government of members to circle boards and to district councils where groups of village-tracts and circle boards have failed to elect members. It also provides for the establishment of hospital committees by district councils and for the carrying out of emergency measures by the Deputy Commissioner in the case of an outbreak of dangerous or infectious disease.

The Burma Midwives and Nurses Act, X of 1922, is a measure brought forward by a non-official member of the Council, Dr. N. N. Parakh. It checks the unlicensed and ignorant practice in midwifery and sick nursing that has caused much suffering and loss of life hitherto. It provides for the registration and better training of midwives and nurses and prevents persons from posing as qualified midwives or nurses who do not possess the qualifications which the council (to be constituted under the Act) considers essential for the practising of these professions.

The Rangoon Development Trust (Amendment) Act, XIII of 1922, amends certain defects in the procedure and in the law laid down in the principal Act.

During the year under report, five Bills were introduced in the Council, *viz.*, the Burma Courts Bill, 1922 ; the Burma Habitual Offenders' Restriction (Amendment) Bill, 1923 ; the Rangoon Police (Amendment) Bill, 1923 ; the Rangoon Rent (Amendment) Bill, 1923, and the Deputy President's Salary Bill, 1923, all of which have been passed into law as Burma Acts XI of 1922, III, IV, I and II of 1923, respectively.

The Burma Courts Act, XI of 1922, is a measure to provide for the establishment of a High Court of Judicature at Rangoon and a modern system of judicial administration in Upper Burma, and also to abolish divisional courts throughout the Province. The provisions of the Act apply to the whole of Burma, but the Act gives power to the Local Government to exempt any tract or district from its operation. The High Court of Judicature at Rangoon was established by Letters Patent dated the 11th November 1922.

The Rangoon Rent (Amendment) Act, I of 1923, was the first measure dealt with by the enlarged and reformed Council and was initiated by a non-official member. The object of this Act is to continue the principal Act in force for a further period of two years as the necessity for protecting tenants still exists.

The Deputy President's Salary Act, II of 1923, is enacted in pursuance of the provisions of section 72c (2) and (5) of the Government of India Act that there shall be a Deputy President of the Legislative Council of Burma who shall be a member elected by the Council and approved by the Governor, and shall receive such salary as may be determined by Act of the local legislature. The salary is fixed by the Act at Rs. 5,000 a year.

The Burma Habitual Offenders Restriction (Amendment) Act, III of 1923, is to fill a gap in the original Act by providing that persons convicted under section 30 or section 31 of the Rangoon Police Act, 1899, may be required to reside within certain areas for one year under an order of restriction instead of being put on security or sent to jail in default under section 31A of the Rangoon Police Act.

The Rangoon Police (Amendment) Act, IV of 1923, is enacted to empower the Local Government to make rules for the dismissal, suspension, reduction or punishment of any police officer appointed under section 11 of the original Act, the object being to enable powers to this end to be conferred on Superintendents of Police in Rangoon.

General Acts affecting Burma.

30. The undermentioned Acts affecting Burma were passed by the Indian Legislature during the year :—

General Acts of 1922.

XVI.—The Indian Extradition (Amendment) Act, 1922.
XVIII.—The Negotiable Instruments (Amendment) Act, 1922.
XIX.—The Court-fees (Amendment) Act, 1922.
XX.—The Parsi Marriage and Divorce (Amendment) Act, 1922.
XXI.—The Official Trustee's and Administrator-General's Acts (Amendment Act), 1922.
XXII.—The Police (Incitement to Disaffection) Act, 1922.
XXIII.—The Indian Transfer of Ships Restriction (Repealing) Act, 1922.

General Acts of 1923.

I.—The Criminal Tribes (Amendment) Act, 1923.
III.—The Cotton Transport Act, 1923.
IV.—The Indian Mines Act, 1923.
V.—The Indian Boilers Act, 1923.
VI.—The Cantonments House-Accommodation Act, 1923.
VII.—The Indian Naval Armament Act, 1923.
VIII.—The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923.
IX.—The Indian Factories (Amendment) Act, 1923.
X.—The Indian Paper Currency Act, 1923.
XI.—The Repealing and Amending Act, 1923.
XII.—The Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1923.
XIII.—The Married Women's Property (Amendment) Act, 1923.
XIV.—The Indian Cotton Cess Act, 1923.
XV.—The Indian Income-tax (Amendment) Act, 1923.
XVI.—The Government Savings Banks (Amendment) Act, 1923.
XVII.—The Prisoners (Amendment) Act, 1923.
XVIII.—The Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Act, 1923.
XIX.—The Indian Official Secrets Act, 1923.

XX.—The Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Act, 1923.
XXI.—The Indian Merchant Shipping Act, 1923.
XXIII.—The Legal Practitioners (Women) Act, 1923.
XXVI.—The Code of Civil Procedure (Amendment) Act, 1923.
XXVII.—The Indian Income-tax (Further Amendment) Act, 1923.
XXVIII.—The Indigo Cess (Repealing) Act, 1923.
XXIX.—The Code of Civil Procedure (Amendment) Act, 1923.
XXX.—The Special Marriage (Amendment) Act, 1923.
XXXI.—The Indian Territorial and Auxiliary Forces (Amendment) Act, 1923.
XXXII.—The Indian Lunacy (Amendment) Act, 1923.
XXXIII.—The Indian Army (Amendment) Act, 1923.
XXXIV.—The Cutchi Memons (Amendment) Act, 1923.
XXXV.—The Code of Criminal Procedure (Further Amendment) Act, 1923.
XXXVI.—The Indian Paper Currency (Amendment) Act, 1923.
XXXVII.—The Code of Criminal Procedure (Second Amendment) Act, 1923.
XXXVIII.—The Land Acquisition (Amendment) Act, 1923.
XXXIX.—The Indian Ports (Amendment) Act, 1923.
XL.—The Indian Electricity (Amendment) Act, 1923.
XLI.—The Charitable and Religious Trusts (Amendment) Act, 1923.
XLII.—The Mussalman Wakf Act, 1923.

31. No ordinance affecting Burma was made during the year of report.

Regulation affecting Burma.

32. Only one Regulation, namely, the Arakan Hill District Laws (Amendment) Regulation (I of 1923), was enacted during the year under report. It amends the Arakan Hill District Laws Regulations, 1916.

Extension of Enactments to Shan States.

33. The Kachin Hill Tribes Regulation, 1895, was extended to the Northern Shan States, the Indian Factories (Amendment) Act, 1922, to the Northern Shan States except the State of Manglün, and the Hackney Carriage Act, 1879, to the notified area of Lashio in the Northern Shan States.

Police.

Civil Police: Strength and Cost.

34. The sanctioned strength of the force excluding gazetted officers was 1,639 officers and 14,371 men (an increase of 12 officers and 353 men); the actual strength at the end of the year was 1,568 officers and 13,403 men. The shortage of constables rose from 616 to 968. Enlistments fell from 2,170 to 2,145 and the number of those who left the force rose from 2,346 to 2,478, a percentage of 16·55, which is below that of 1921, but still unduly high. The shortage of officers resulted from the sanctioned increase in cadets at the Training School being raised from 90 to 120, which number had not been recruited at the end of the year. There were large shortages of men in important districts, from 10 per cent. in Mandalay downwards, and as recruiting depends on pay, the recent

increases appeared insufficient to attract men except as a temporary expedient. The health of the force improved, hospital admissions falling from 32 to 28 ; the absent percentage also fell.

The total cost payable from provincial revenues was Rs. 97·87 lakhs against Rs. 95·48 lakhs due to the 1920 increases having full effect, to increased travelling allowances, to revision of local district allowances and grant of Rangoon allowances to officers, clerks and men. Receipts on account of police paid for from other than imperial and provincial revenues rose from Rs. 1·84 lakhs to Rs. 2·54 lakhs. Additional police entertained at Zeyawaddy cost Rs. 16,720.

Conduct, Education and Training.

35. Fourteen officers and 245 men were dismissed and removed departmentally. Magisterial punishments were awarded to 5 officers and 255 men of whom 4 officers and 217 men were consequently dismissed : a total of 18 officers and 462 men. Other departmental punishments were inflicted on 332 officers (increase of 43) and 1,288 men (decrease of 78). Fourteen true cases of misconduct were proved as against 12 in 1921. The King's Police Medal was awarded to one officer. Special promotions for good work numbered 47 against 45, but other rewards fell from 3,325 to 3,172 of which 1,927 were departmental and 1,245 by courts.

Five Probationary Assistant Superintendents were under training at the Provincial Training School at the end of the year. Eighty-four Cadet Sub-Inspectors were posted to the school, of whom 79 actually joined ; of the 77 who appeared at the final examination all obtained more than the pass minimum but 8 failed in obligatory subjects and 36 in shorthand. The first and second were appointed Inspectors direct. The cadets' health was generally good, but an outbreak of beri-beri attacked 18 cadets, of whom 2 were admitted to hospital and recovered. The conduct of the cadets was generally good.

The number of literate subordinate officers again rose from 13,172 to 13,303. Recruits posted to district training depôts numbered 1,887, a decrease of 343 : the number who qualified was 1,076, a decrease of 240. The figure of merit obtained by officers in the revolver course was slightly higher, also that for the trained constables' and recruits' musketry course. First-aid classes were held in 26 centres attended by 523 officers and men and 171 of the 204 who appeared for the examination passed. Co-operative societies had increased in number and are almost all reported as doing well, new societies having been formed in Ma-ubin and Thayetmyo. The Rangoon Society had a good second year.

Buildings.

36. For lack of funds construction of permanent quarters is still delayed, the estimate being Rs. 3·07 lakhs with Rs. 1 lakh for petty construction and repairs and Rs. ·75 lakh for minor works. Many district buildings are reported to be so dilapidated as to be no longer worth repair. Expenditure on hiring quarters increased from Rs. ·91 lakhs to Rs. 1·17 lakhs.

Crime.

37. True cognisable cases dealt with by the police and magistrates fell from 54,151 to 53,580, Tenasserim, Mandalay and North-East Frontier Divisions showing increases and the others decreases : the decrease was 859 in minor offences against property, and 207 in other offences, there being increases of 265 under offences against the state, 202 in serious offences against the

person, 15 in serious offences against person and property and 21 in minor offences against the person.

There was again an increase in violent crime, true cases dealt with by police and magistrates numbering 2,035 or 80 more than in the previous year. There were 364 dacoities and 819 robberies, against 333 and 732 in 1921. The increase took place mainly in the central districts, Toungoo, Yamèthin, Magwe, Minbu, Meiktila and Myingyan. An increase in the number of firearms used in the commission of crime was one of the most disquieting features, especially in Meiktila, Yamèthin, Toungoo and Amherst. Enquiries showed that guns of Shan manufacture are easily obtainable in all the districts bordering on the Shan States, while the majority of firearms used in Amherst come from Siam. The illicit importation of revolvers into Rangoon continued; but it is certain that the majority of firearms used for criminal purposes are of local manufacture, whose real usefulness ends with the noise of their explosion. Cases of murder numbered 610 or 22 less than in the previous year. There was a remarkable reduction under this head in the Prome District, where murders numbered only 19 against 33 in 1921 and an average of 44 in the three previous years. The reason suggested was the removal of village bullies to distant tracts under the Habitual Offenders Restriction Act. There was a drop of 120 in the number of burglaries, and of 717 (nearly 20 per cent.) in that of cattle thefts, the latter decrease being generally ascribed to the working of the Habitual Offenders Restriction Act and to some improvement in the assistance given to the police by cattle owners themselves and by villagers in general. There was a small decrease of 222 in cases of ordinary theft.

Working of the Police.

38. Excluding cases in which investigation was refused, the number of cases dealt with by the police amounted to 71,507, or 119 cases less than in 1921. Of these 46,246 were classed as true. The percentage of success in the detection and prosecution of these cases was 50, against 51 in 1921 and 52 in 1920. For crime proper, that is with the exclusion of offences under special and local laws and the other miscellaneous classes of cases, 35,625 persons were sent up for trial, and of these 56 per cent. were convicted, practically the same percentage as in the previous year. There was no increase in the number of cases in which the police used their right of refusing to investigate complaints of trivial importance. The percentages of cases ending in conviction under different classes was as follows :—

	1921.	1922.
Murder ...	26	25
Dacoity ...	29	22
Robbery ...	41	41
Burglary ...	43	30
Cattle theft ...	43	45
Ordinary theft ...	44	43

In contrast to the poor percentage of conviction in dacoity cases indicated above, several individual instances of good work by the police against dacoits may be mentioned. In Meiktila an inspector with a party of police surprised six men committing a dacoity and attacked them at once, killing one and wounding another. All the remainder were eventually arrested and convicted. In a similar case in Bassein a sub-inspector killed one and wounded two other dacoits. In Myaungmya

a man responsible for no less than seven violent crimes, including robbery with murder, who had taken refuge in a remote jungle tract, was shot dead by an inspector, and the whole of his gang with one exception were arrested and imprisoned. Two formidable gangs operating in the Thatôn District were broken up by the use of the Habitual Offenders Restriction Act.

With the prospect of the inauguration of the reformed constitution, there was some abatement of political agitation during the year 1922, and the Criminal Investigation Department was able to devote its energies more fully to the detection of important criminal cases which were beyond the capabilities of the district police. Its efforts led to the detection of a particularly cold-blooded robbery with murder committed on a train, an extensive bank fraud, three cases of swindling by fraudulent or bogus companies, a number of arson cases committed for the sake of insurance money or the sinking of launches for a similar purpose, and several thefts of registered letters or parcels. All these cases called for long and careful elucidation, and the majority were of a technical nature.

Village headmen continued to be of great assistance to the police, but their work was hampered and their loyalty often put to a great strain by the opposition, sometimes extending to boycott, of political societies, whose one effective purpose in many cases seemed to be the defeat of all measures undertaken by Government for the sake of law and order.

There were 55 escapes from police custody, 35 from the civil police and 20 from the military police. In 33 cases the prisoners were re-arrested. The most important case was the escape of six men from the Pa-an lock-up, after sawing through one of the bars of the cage with a smuggled knife and a piece of tin.

Important Incidents.

39. There were no individual crimes of outstanding interest or importance, but a few cases of successful resistance to dacoits by villagers may be mentioned. In Insein a dacoity occurred in which four shots were fired and several villagers slightly wounded. They nevertheless turned out in force, and when the dacoits retreated, closed with them and cut down two men, securing a gun and some cartridges. In Bassein twelve dacoits with a gun and *das* attacked a house and secured loot to the value of Rs. 4,500. The villagers came to the rescue and wounded three of the dacoits. One was recognized, and prompt action on the part of the village headman, who followed the band by train, led to the arrest and conviction of seven of them. In Myaungmya a house tenanted by an elderly Karen with a young wife was attacked by dacoits who, although they were armed with a gun of local manufacture, were beaten off by the young wife with a bow and arrows, with the loss of one wounded.

Offences under Special Acts.

40. There was a further decrease in the number of prosecutions for offences under the Excise Act, the total number being 4,624 against 5,199 in 1921. The decline was most marked in cases prosecuted by the police, but as it was shared in some degree both by the Excise Department and by village headmen, mere apathy cannot wholly explain it. There were some indications that the agitation against the use of liquor, which was noticeable in the previous few years, had produced greater

caution in the matter of illegal sales, while the dying away of the agitation in the year under report naturally meant that information was not so readily obtained by the authorities. There was a small fall in the number of cases dealt with under the Opium Act. The total number of cases dealt with was 2,313, in 93 per cent. of which convictions were obtained. Large seizures were made of opium smuggled from the Southern Shan States, and also of opium smuggled into Myitkyina.

The number of prosecutions under the Gambling Act decreased further by 349, but it is doubtful whether this indicates any diminution of gambling. Rather it would appear that the increase of violent crime left the investigating police officers less time to arrange for the detection of organized gambling. A signal success was obtained, however, on the outskirts of Rangoon by a successful raid carried out by the Insein Police, after elaborate arrangements in conjunction with the Rangoon Town Police, on a den run by the notorious Meshedi Khan.

Offences under the Arms Act dealt with by the police numbered 807 against 830 in 1921. Of these cases 738 ended in conviction. The number of unlicensed guns seized or surrendered rose from 64 to 80. Much has been said in favour of meeting the increase of dacoity and robbery by the freer issue of arms licenses ; and the number of such licenses rose during the year from 7,823 to 9,720. It was disappointing, however, that with this increase the number of violent crimes in which firearms were carried rose from 164 to 252. There was one case in which a gun belonging to Government, which had been entrusted to a headman for protection against dacoits, was carried off in a dacoit attack.

Non-cognizable Crime.

41. There was a further reduction of 983 true cases of non-cognizable crime, the number dealt with by the courts being 35,078. The percentage of cases ending in conviction was 68. There was a welcome decrease of 24 in offences against the state or public tranquillity.

Preventive law, Surveillance and Identification.

42. The number of persons required to show cause against giving security for good behaviour under the Criminal Procedure Code, or having their movements restricted under the Habitual Offenders Restriction Act, was 2,182. In the former class of cases only 68 per cent. of the persons proceeded against were ordered to give security ; but of the 1,351 persons dealt with under the latter Act, 95 per cent. were ordered to restrict their movements. The increasing use of this Act was satisfactory and its results were well reported on ; but there is still a good deal to be learnt by experience regarding the details of its proper application. The number of names on the police surveillance registers at the beginning of the year was 7,592, and at the end 8,405. One factor in the increase was the extended use of the Habitual Offenders Restriction Act. To keep the number within manageable limits, regular attention to the expunging of unnecessary names is required ; but the reluctance of station-officers to carry out this work continued. The lists were reported to contain 1,627 names of men who had returned to honest ways of life. There were 3,901 proclaimed offenders at large at the end of the year. The number of arrests made was 992, while 532 names were expunged owing to lapse of time or insufficiency of evidence. Additional names advertised during

the year numbered 1,393. It is hoped that steps for the arrest of proclaimed offenders may be enabled to keep pace with additions to the list by a reduction in the number of offences for which absconders should be gazetted. The total number of prisoners with previous convictions, who were identified by the police before the passing of sentence, was 5,212, or 508 less than the previous year. The results of training in finger-print work showed improvement. The percentage of slips that had to be rejected at the bureau fell from 15 to 10; and an improvement was noticed in the course of the year.

Punitive Police.

43. Punitive police were employed in one area only, that of the Zeyawaddy grant in the Toungoo District. This estate was the subject of litigation in India, and faction disputes and riots among the tenants were of constant occurrence. A force of one inspector, one sub-inspector, two head constables and 15 constables was employed.

Railway Police.

44. There was no change in the sanctioned strength of the railway police, which, including a temporary staff paid for by the railway company to provide goods train patrols, was 72 officers and 490 men. The actual strength at the end of the year was 68 officers and 474 men. There was no shortage of candidates for enlistment, but there was difficulty in obtaining men of a really suitable type. Owing to the grant of compensatory local allowances and of duty allowances to the surveillance and detective staff, the cost of the force rose from Rs. 2·65 lakhs to Rs. 3·31 lakhs. The conduct of the force was on the whole satisfactory. Four officers and 65 men were rewarded, mainly by courts in excise cases and the like. No progress was made with the construction of buildings for the railway police. The number of true cases dealt with was 2,847, or 480 more than in 1921. Convictions were obtained in 1,635 cases or 57 per cent. of the total, against 60 per cent. in 1921. The increase was largely under prosecutions for nuisance; but there was also an increase in cases of counterfeit currency notes and of theft. The special goods train patrols did useful work in the recovery of paddy presumed to have been removed from trains by thieves; and an increase in the number of reported thefts from running goods trains was probably due to a presumption of theft whenever paddy was found on the line, even though it might have been shaken off overloaded wagons. There were 17 attempts to derail trains or obstruct traffic, but only two were serious. The rest were mainly childish acts of mischief or due to negligence. Under violent crime, there were four murders, one attempt at murder and four robberies, of which two murders, the attempt at murder and three robberies were prosecuted to conviction. No proceedings were instituted under the preventive sections, but District Magistrates were frequently moved to have notorious railway thieves restricted to areas away from the line under the Habitual Offenders Restriction Act, with good results. There were two escapes from custody, but both prisoners were recaptured.

Military Police.

45. The sanctioned strength of the military police was reduced during the year from 16,852 to 13,405, with the disbandment of the Shwebo battalion and reductions in the Mandalay and Putao battalions. The Chindwin battalion was re-organized as the North-West Border battalion, taking over the

posts in the districts now included in the North-West Border Division (Shwebo and Katha) and handing over those in the Upper Chindwin District to the Chin Hills battalion, those in Minbu and Magwe to the Mandalay battalion, and those in Thayetmyo to the Rangoon battalion. The Salween battalion was re-established with a strength of 160, the reserve battalion being correspondingly reduced. Military police posts at Thazi, Pwinbyu and Kalaw were taken over by the civil police in the course of the year ; but at five other posts where a similar change was intended with the reduction of the military police, it could not be carried out owing to recruiting difficulties. The total cost of the military police was reduced from Rs. 88·68 lakhs to Rs. 79·20 lakhs. The actual strength of the force at the close of the year was 450 below the sanctioned strength. Owing to the introduction of an annual invaliding board, 819 men were invalided as unfit for further service, against 479 in 1921. Admissions to hospital were consequently rather less numerous on the whole ; but there was as usual a good deal of malaria in the Chin Hills, North-West Border, Arakan Hill Tracts and Salween battalions. There were 16 cases of plague and 22 of blackwater fever. Owing to the reductions in the force, recruiting was carried on only in the second half of the year ; 481 recruits were enlisted in India and 326 in Burma. No difficulty was experienced in the recruiting of any class except Sikhs, but a number of Punjabi Mahomedans and Dogras who came from India were found on arrival to be dissatisfied with their terms of service. Of 762 of all ranks still shown as seconded with the Indian Army at the beginning of the year, 528 were traced and the majority of these were found to have accepted permanent service in, or to have been discharged from, the army. Only 8 rejoined the military police. The remaining 234 are still untraced.

The most striking piece of work performed by the military police during 1922 was the repulse of the raid on Muse, details of which were given in paragraph 81 of the report for 1921-22. A bonus of one month's pay was granted to all taking part in that operation. Eight officers and 81 other ranks were rewarded otherwise for good work during the year. There was again a reduction in the number of punishments inflicted. Laxity of discipline in individual cases, however, was indicated by twenty escapes from military police custody, against four in the previous year. The training of the force was reported satisfactory, in view of the small numbers available for training with the reduction in strength. Members of the force attended special classes in physical training, Lewis gun, Stokes mortar, motor driving, signalling and mounted infantry training, while 16 men underwent training with a pioneer regiment and six as farriers. There was no change in armament, except that the North-West Border battalion, on reconstitution, was armed with the ·303 magazine rifle instead of the Martini-Henri, and that Lewis guns were issued to the frontier battalions.

Rangoon Town Police.

46. The sanctioned strength of the Rangoon Town Police was raised during the year by 6 officers and 10 men to a total of 123 officers and 1,435 men. Casualties, especially resignations, were unusually high during the year, and in spite of a further revision of pay and special concessions to *ex*-soldiers enlisting, recruitment failed to keep pace ; the result was a shortage of 76 men at the end of the year. The cost of the force was Rs. 10·77 lakhs against Rs. 10·79 lakhs in the previous year, the decrease being due to vacancies. Two officers and 39 men were dismissed or removed

from the force, while seven officers and 172 men were otherwise departmentally punished. Discredit was brought on the force by disclosures in connection with a prosecution for theft of rice on the river, which revealed the fact that many officers and men of the river police had for months been in the regular pay of a well-organized and powerful gang of thieves. On the other hand, the bringing of this case to light was a commendable piece of work ; and the force also gained praise for the efficient manner in which the many extra duties in connection with the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales were performed. There were three strikes which threw extra work on the police in the course of the year. The unprecedented number of resignations was ascribed in part to the stoppage of leave in connection with the Prince of Wales's visit and to the tightening up of discipline in consequence of the disclosures in connection with the rice-theft case ; but also to dissatisfaction that the increases of pay have not been proportionate to increases made in other provinces and with inadequate housing. The health of the force continued to deteriorate and little could be done to improve the insanitary surroundings of several of the police-stations. One new station and one new block of married quarters for European sergeants were completed during the year, and other new buildings were in progress.

There was an increase in serious crime in Rangoon in 1922 as compared with 1921. Cases of dacoity, robbery and serious house-breaking rose from 376 to 422, and of theft and other less serious offences against property from 1,825 to 1,906. A disquieting feature was the use of firearms in 14 cases of dacoity or robbery, against only 3 in 1921. The arms were generally illicit weapons smuggled into Rangoon by the crews of foreign ships. Fifteen unlicensed revolvers were seized by the police and there were 40 prosecutions under the Arms Act, against 8 seizures and 39 prosecutions in 1921. In cases of real crime the percentage of conviction fell from 58 to 53. More use than formerly was made of the preventive sections of the Criminal Procedure Code, proceedings having been taken in 85 cases against 7 in 1921.

Village Administration.

47. During the year the number of headmen was again reduced ; the decrease of 279, from 14,944 to 14,665 as compared with 318 in 1921, 323 in 1920 and 593 in 1919, indicates that the policy of amalgamation continues with very little abatement. The number of circle headmen (who are a class apart from village headmen) fell by ten following the gradual fulfilment of the decision to abolish these charges ; subordinate headmen receiving only part commission, fell from 266 to 249 and those receiving no commission from 724 to 649. The great mass of headmen who are independent of circle headmen and draw full commission, amounted to 13,404, a reduction of 177. Amalgamation normally takes place when a vacancy is caused by death, resignation or removal, but in some instances amalgamation has been effected apart from these considerations. Amalgamation is always unpopular with the village which loses the headman.

Despite the decrease in the total of headmen the number of those exercising special powers continued to increase : 2,475 held special criminal powers and 2,638 special civil powers, increases of 164 and 153 over the numbers for 1921. These special powers are now held by more than one-sixth of the total number of headmen ; in 1918 the figures were 1,826 and 1,981 out of a total of 16,257, or one-eighth.

Cases of disciplinary action towards headmen decreased, dismissals being 186 against 246, suspensions 74 against 69 and fines 121 against 190 : on the other hand rewards were given in 2,078 cases as compared with 2,211 in 1921. The reduction in both cases is comparatively greater than the reduction in the total of headmen.

Average commission paid to headmen varied between Rs. 75 in Bhamo, Rs. 87 in Thayetmyo and Rs. 88 in Arakan Hill District to Rs. 267 in Insein and Hanthawaddy. Amalgamation is gradually producing better conditions of remuneration, but there are numerous instances where Commissioners consider the commission paid to be inadequate, and the aim to work up commission for a village tract to Rs. 250 is still an ideal.

The majority of those headmen who possess special judicial powers are said to regard this more in the light of a personal honour than as a privilege to be exercised for the benefit of the country by speedy decisions and by avoiding reference to the subordinate judicial courts. The reports on the judicial work of headmen is on the whole favourable. Some are shy of exercising these powers through lack of confidence or the existence of well-informed critics.

A new method of recording vital statistics has recently been introduced with the object of obtaining more accurate figures, the previous method having come to be regarded as an unnecessary trouble. It is reported that the reports of deaths are nearer to accuracy than those of births, and that the villagers consider it unnecessary to report the birth of a child who dies soon after birth. The need for greater accuracy is pointedly urged in the 1921 Census Report.

Slackness in excise work is reported from nearly every division although the effect of temperance propaganda has been to make such slackness less popular. Fear of displeasing the offenders is indicated as a cause of slackness in many districts.

Fines inflicted by headmen amounted to Rs. 1,35,714, being Rs. 13 less than in 1921. Abuse of authority is infrequent, though charges on this head have been freely made ; laxity is much more general.

Despite criticism, insufficient remuneration and the obvious difficulties of the position, the vacant headmanship is always eagerly sought after though among the numerous candidates the number of thoroughly suitable men is small. Dignity attaches to the position, and even old men who are past work are with difficulty persuaded to resign. Hereditary claims are given their due value, but it is stated by more than one Deputy Commissioner that a hereditary claim without wealth or a strong personality is not in itself sufficient to ensure popular support. Most headmen have kept their end up by the force of personality in the case of hostility from whatever cause arising : for the exercise of the ordinary duties of headman has been challenged and criticised.

Relations with the police are reported to be everywhere satisfactory. Resistance to dacoits is still of unfrequent occurrence, although it invariably pays. Influential headmen are able to prevent crime as well as to assist in its detection. Guns issued to headmen are well guarded, and no case of improper use is reported.

Sanitation is still viewed as a somewhat troublesome precaution but interest in cleaner and healthier conditions is increasing and sanitation forms one of the subjects discussed at meetings of headmen's groups, together with cattle disease, crime, irrigation, fences and temperance. These headmen's group meetings are regarded as successful. The village fence is an element in sanitation which is much discussed. Some district officers consider the villages in their areas more sanitary than the towns.

The headman, though usually as slow to change as are most of his neighbours, has been able in many cases to promote improvement in agriculture and in the carrying out of the rules for the segregation of cattle during epidemics. The value of improved strains of grains and of inoculation and segregation is being slowly recognised. The Farmers' Day Meetings at Mahlaing are increasing in popularity and usefulness. Bad agricultural conditions are speedily reflected in reduced commissions.

The revenue work of headmen is reported as good, the number of cases of embezzlement being few ; and in every case the collection was made good either by the defaulter or by the headmen's groups who are mutually responsible.

With the larger areas due to amalgamation, the place of the *ywagaung* assumes greater importance and many officers urge that he be given some remuneration in return for his services as *de facto* headman of his village where the headman is non-resident.

Fines on village-tracts numbered 130 with a total of Rs. 35,197 as compared with 134 and Rs. 31,066 in 1921, Minbu (with Rs. 9,190), Yamèthin (with Rs. 6,035) and Tharrawaddy (with Rs. 2,968) being the largest items.

Communal problems still affect village administration, Karens being usually desirous of having headmen of their own race. Differences between Kachins and their neighbours in the North-West Frontier Division have been amicably adjusted.

Wild Animals and Snakes.

48. During the year 1922, 95 persons, two more than in the preceding year, were killed by wild animals other than snakes, of whom 59 were killed by tigers ; the largest numbers were in Kyaukpyu and Sandoway (13 each). Seven persons were killed by elephants, six by leopards and panthers, five by bears, 17 by crocodiles and one by a wild boar. No deaths were caused by hyenas or wolves. There were 1,355 deaths from snake-bite, a decrease of 207 compared with 1921. The districts most affected were Insein (162 deaths), Ma-ubin (112), Magwe (103) and Tharrawaddy (103).

The number of wild animals (other than snakes) recorded as destroyed was 5,907, an increase of 155, and the total paid in rewards was Rs. 92,840, a decrease of Rs. 285. Three wild elephants were killed, 766 tigers, 2,728 leopards and panthers, 1,864 bears, 398 wild dogs, one alligator, 115 wild pigs and 30 sambhur. The Amherst District returned 199 tigers killed, Katha (57), Thatôn (56) and Myitkyina (48) coming next. The Chin Hills returned 527 bears killed, Myitkyina (317), Bhamo (217) and Katha (129) coming next. The number of snakes reported killed was 12,214, a decrease of 2,416 against 1921, but little reliance can be placed on these figures, as rewards are not paid by Government.

Criminal Justice.

Criminal Courts.

49. Two temporary additional Judges sat on the Chief Court of Lower Burma for practically the whole of 1922, and the Judicial Commissioner of Upper Burma was similarly assisted, until the establishment of the High Court of Judicature at Rangoon for the whole province on the 18th December 1922. The staff of the High Court was fixed at 8 permanent and 2 additional Judges, and of the whole number 2 sat at Mandalay.

With the reorganization of the Superior Judicial Service, and the appointment of District and Sessions Judges, which also took effect from the 18th December 1922, the province was divided afresh into 25 instead of 12 sessions divisions. The new divisions consist for the most part in Lower Burma of single districts and in Upper Burma of groups of two or three districts. At the outset the courts of session in 22 of these divisions were presided over by whole-time Sessions Judges, while in the remaining three the Commissioner was also the Judge. The total number of stipendiary magistrates at the end of the year 1922 was 538, against 567 at the end of 1921, the decrease being mainly in the number of third class magistrates. Nine new benches of honorary magistrates were constituted during the year making the total number 100. The inspection of subordinate courts was generally adequate.

Number of cases.

50. The number of offences reported was 110,037, or 827 more than in 1921. Cases found after trial to be true, however, showed a slight decrease. The number of reported cases under the Indian Penal Code was 54,786 and under special and local laws 50,543, against 52,618 and 49,959 in 1921.

Disposal of cases.

51. The number of cases brought to trial was 106,383, involving 172,655 persons, against 107,106 involving 176,084 persons in 1921 ; but this decrease was not accompanied by any improvement in the number of cases pending at the end of the year, when there were 7,707 persons under trial, against 6,702 at the end of 1921. The number was excessive in several districts, notably Pegu, Mandalay, Rangoon and Myaungmya. The number of cases tried with special powers was 2,488, of which more than nine-tenths were tried by specially empowered magistrates subordinate to District Magistrates. Honorary Magistrates dealt with 30,350 cases, of which nearly half were in Rangoon. It is believed that more use might well be made of the benches. The percentage of conviction to persons under trial fell from 58·1 to 57·2. The lowness of the figure particularly in the case of violent crime was regarded by the High Court as a matter for grave concern, the responsibility for which must be shared by the police, the prosecuting staff and the magistrates. An examination of the figures by districts, and comparison with those showing the duration of trials, led irresistibly to the conclusion that delay in the courts was one of the most potent causes of defeat to the forces of law and order. Persons committed for trial by courts of session numbered 1,104 in 644 cases, slightly fewer than in the previous year. The percentage of conviction was 52·4. Sixty-seven cases involving 113 persons were tried at the sessions of the Chief Court with a percentage of conviction of 63·7.

Punishments.

52. The number of death sentences rose from 57 to 69. Sentences of transportation numbered 304, of imprisonment 18,796 and of whipping 2,205 against 390, 19,412 and 2,725 in the previous year. Short sentences of 15 days imprisonment or less numbered 2,548 ; but of these 1,708 were nominal sentences of imprisonment till the rising of the court. The disproportionate decrease in the number of sentences of whipping was the subject of adverse comment by the High Court, and it was pointed out firstly, that the suitability of whipping for a first offender who cannot be released on probation was not properly realized, and secondly, that even where

whipping was inflicted, it was in some 80 per cent. of the cases too light to have any really deterrent effect. A fall in the number of youthful offenders released on probation from 1,638 in 1921 to 1,424 was also noted with anxiety by the High Court, as indicating with the whipping figures that many first offenders must have been unnecessarily sent to jail.

Appeals.

53. The number of appeals against conviction fell from 13,334 to 12,572. In the High Courts the number was 1,698, or 102 less than in 1921. There were eleven appeals by the Local Government against acquittals, seven of which were successful. The percentage of confirmation of sentences on appeal rose from 68·9 to 70·7. In the Chief Court the percentage of confirmation was 77·2, and in the Court of the Judicial Commissioner 73·1. The average duration of the hearing of appeals was reduced from 14 to 13 days.

Revision.

54. District Magistrates dealt in revision with the cases of 20,638 persons, against 19,998 in 1921 ; and Sessions Judges with 6,472, against 7,205 in 1921. Further inquiry was ordered by both classes of courts in 383 cases, while 440 were referred to the Chief Court or Judicial Commissioner. The High Courts had before them 2,327 cases.

Prisons.

Accommodation.

55. Inclusive of hospitals and observation cells, the total accommodation available for all classes of prisoners at the close of the year was 18,020, against 17,966 in the preceding year. The increase of 54 is accounted for by the provision of additional accommodation for 15 convicts at Tavoy, and for 39 under-trials, *viz.* 15 at Shwegyin and 24 at Mergui. There is accommodation for 14,996 convicts, 1,458 undertrials and 309 civil prisoners, the total daily average number in confinement being 15,078, 1,097 and 52 respectively.

Prisoners.

56. At the beginning of the year, there remained 15,206 convicts or 432 more than in 1921; while the number imprisoned was 18,625, or 1,383 less than in the previous year.

Convicts were disposed of as follows :—

One thousand two hundred and seventy-nine were released on appeal, 11,303 on expiry of sentence, 5,620 under remission rules, 174 by order of Government, 22 were transferred to lunatic asylums, one remained uncaptured out of those who escaped during the year, 51 were executed, and 217 died. The number remaining at the close of the year was 15,365, or 159 more than in the previous year. The bulk of the convict population being Burmans, 82·08 per cent. were Buddhists ; Hindus formed 6·32 per cent., Mahomedans 5·40, Christians 0·63 and all other denominations 5·57 per cent.

Five hundred and seven juvenile prisoners under the age of 16 were admitted, *viz.* 124 to serve terms of imprisonment and 383 for whipping only. Statistical ratios, relative to the classification of prisoners according to age, did not differ materially from those of last year. Compared with

1921, the percentage of those able to read and write rose from 66·36 to 70·19, while in respect of those able to read only and illiterate, it fell from 1·09 and 32·55 to 0·59 and 29·22 respectively.

The number awarded simple imprisonment was 545, rigorous imprisonment 17,457, rigorous imprisonment with solitary confinement 574, and rigorous imprisonment with whipping 49, against 475, 18,919, 595 and 19 respectively in 1921. Reconvicted prisoners numbered 5,823, yielding a ratio of 31·26 per cent., against 5,926 and 29·62 respectively in the previous year. The number of youthful offenders under 15 years of age was 20, of whom eight had been previously convicted, and 15 were transferred to the Reformatory School at Insein. 29·14 per cent. of direct admissions were classified as habituals against 28·13 per cent. in 1921. An examination of the figures of the total number of non-habitual and habitual convicts admitted to the Burma Jails in the period 1910—22, shows that for the non-habituals they vary considerably in different years, while the habitual figures show much less variation, thus tending to indicate that while " accidental crime " is determined by a variety of circumstances, more or less doubtful, there is a steady nucleus or core of recidivism which has on the whole an upward tendency.

Discipline.

57. The number of offences dealt with by criminal courts was 22, against 30 in 1921 ; these offences consisting of serious assaults eight, escapes from lawful custody seven, introduction of prohibited articles on a large scale three, attempt to commit suicide two, and commission of unnatural offences two. Compared with 1921, there was a marked falling off in the offences relating to work and all other breaches of jail rules, and at the same time an increase under the heads " prohibited articles " and " assaults."

The total number of minor punishments was less than in 1921. The decrease occurred under warnings, handcuffing and link fetters. On the other hand, major punishments rose from 4,313 to 4,745, the increase being general except in relation to fetters and handcuffing to or behind a staple. A fall in the total number of minor punishments (the ratio per cent. being 125·98 against 139·84 in 1921) and a rise in the total number of major punishments (28·74 to 31·47) would appear to indicate that the need arose for dealing more severely with a small proportion of the convict population. Calculated on the daily average number of convicts, the ratios per cent. of the grand total of punishments and of corporal punishment were 157·60 and 0·31 respectively, the figures for 1921 being 168·77 and 0·23.

During the year there were ten escapes all from outside the jail. Of these nine were recaptured and one remained at large. A prisoner who escaped in 1921 was also accounted for during the year.

The majority of the assaults committed were of trifling nature, but in six cases (five at Insein and one at Rangoon) the prisoners concerned were guilty of serious assaults. The men were sent up for trial and were awarded sentences ranging from five years' to one year's rigorous imprisonment.

The number of floggings was 81 compared with only 62 in 1921, and is the highest on record since the year 1914. At thirteen of the jails no corporal punishment was awarded.

Habituals formed 44·02 of the convict population, or 0·73 less than in 1921. They accounted for 14 of the 22 serious offences dealt with by courts and for close upon 52 per cent. of those dealt with by jail Superintendents. This class of convicts came in also for a larger share

of the major punishments and a smaller share of the minor punishments, this indicating that they were more severely dealt with than prisoners of the casual or non-habitual class. The habituals received 48 or 64·86 per cent. of the whippings inflicted on ordinary prisoners.

The separation of the casual from the habitual continued to receive close attention. The central jails at Rangoon and Bassein have been reserved for casuals and those at Insein and Myaungmya for habituals. Sixteen out of 24 district jails are now reserved for the confinement of casuals, habituals being detained there only till they can be transferred.

The daily average number of convicts employed as prison officers was 2,728, *viz.*, 2,710 males and 18 females, *i.e.* a ratio of 18·13 and 14·06 respectively, the corresponding figures for 1921 being 2,600 males, 15 females, 17·48 and 11·11. The number of reductions and other punishments awarded was 76 less than in 1921. The replacement of convict officers by free warders to guard undertrial and civil prisoners is another matter which received attention. Proposals are under consideration for the additional warders required for this purpose.

Financial.

58. The cost of upkeep of the department, excluding the head office, was Rs. 18,86,401 or an advance of Rs. 1,87,870 over the expenditure of 1921. About two-thirds of the increase was under dietary charges and a third under establishment charges. The increase under "dietary charges" was due to higher rates paid for foodstuffs, principally paddy and *pegya* and to the year closing with a large stock of dietary articles. The increase under "establishment charges" was brought about by (1) the revision of the jailor and warder staff, (2) the grant of the compensatory local allowance to the officers and men of the Rangoon Central Jail, and (3) the appointment of an Assistant Medical Officer to that jail. The guarding and maintenance charges having risen by nearly 2 lakhs, the total per head of average strength worked out to Rs. 116-3-11, compared with Rs. 105-9-3 in 1921, or nearly Rs. 11 more than in 1921. There is no likelihood of the expenditure being reduced as the years advance unless the price of paddy falls materially. The total expenditure under "jail dairies" was Rs. 13,600 and the receipts Rs. 19,959 which included Rs. 5,273 realized by the sale of surplus stock. Vegetables to the value of Rs. 88,686 were raised during the year for prison consumption from Jail gardens. In addition, sales to the public of the surplus supply realised Rs. 10,086. Other crops besides vegetables were raised exclusively for prison consumption, and, roughly calculated, the value was estimated at Rs. 49,883. Deducting expenditure (Rs. 1,25,342) from the receipts (Rs. 4,19,898), the profit stood at Rs. 2,94,556, a figure which has not been surpassed when the working of the department for the past fifteen years is taken into account. Judged by the realisations, the jail workshops have been patronised by consuming departments of Government, the sales being Rs. 1,35,162 compared with Rs. 1,09,628 in 1921. The value of labour supplied to the Jail Branch Press, and in connection with additions and alterations to existing jail buildings, for which no credit is taken, was estimated at Rs. 80,322 against Rs. 76,715 in 1921. In spite of the increase of Rs. 10-11-0 in the average cost of maintenance per head, the nett cost to the State was only Rs. 6-5-0 more than in 1921, and this was due to the excellent results obtained by the manufactory department. From the financial point of view, the year was not a bad one.

59. There were more prisoners in jails than last year and fewer deaths. The daily average number of sick showed that cases were freely admitted to hospital. There were 172 deaths in the central jails, with a death-rate of 15·79 per mille, nearly the same as last year. Amongst the central jails Bassein returned the lowest death-rate (10·27), and Insein the highest (19·48). District jails returned a total of 83 deaths, giving a death-rate of 15·55. At two jails (Myanaung and Meiktila) there were no deaths. Ten jails returned one death each, five others two deaths each and one jail three deaths. Of the 255 prisoners who died, 78 were admitted to jail in good health, 64 in bad health, and 113 in indifferent health. Thirty prisoners were admitted to hospital directly they arrived at the jail. Fifteen died within a week of admission, eight within two weeks, four within three weeks, 15 within four weeks, and 213 on completion of a month or more of their sentences. As regards age, 158 of the prisoners who died were between 16 and 40, 89 between 40 and 60 and eight were over 60 years of age. The deaths included 119 habituals, 114 casuals and 22 undertrial prisoners. Twenty-nine deaths against 27 in 1921, were amongst prisoners addicted to the opium habit. Compared with 1921, there were fewer admissions and fewer deaths from "other tubercular diseases," and "pneumonia"; more admissions and more deaths from "cholera," "malarial fever," "phthisis" and other "respiratory disease"; more admissions but fewer deaths from "dysentery"; fewer admissions but more deaths from other general diseases and diarrhœa. There were 12 admissions for cholera, 50 per cent. proving fatal. Dysentery accounted for 605 admissions with 20 deaths. Malaria contributed 684 admissions with seven deaths. There were 210 admissions under "tubercular diseases"; of these 195 were pulmonary tubercle with 71 deaths, of which 63 were phthisis. The special tubercle ward at Myingyan continued to do good work. Seventy-seven new cases were admitted from 11 jails. There were 19 deaths during the year and 50 were discharged nominally "cured." This ward was inadequate and many cases could not be transferred for lack of accommodation. This will be remedied when the new ward which will double the accommodation is built. This tubercle ward at Myingyan is the only one of its kind in Burma which has as yet no tubercular hospitals for the free population. Ankylostomiasis accounted for 798 admissions with two deaths, against 809 and nine, respectively, in 1921. This infection received considerable attention during the year. At most jails, the diagnosis is made by the microscope, and at all where the ova or worms are found after a dose of thymol, chenopodium, or other specific drug, the treatment is continued two or more times. Most new admissions are thus examined and cleared of the parasite. In the previous year the jails were free from plague, but in 1922 there were four cases, all fatal, Henzada accounting for three and Rangoon one. Of the convicts admitted to jail during the year, 1,903 or 42 more than in 1921 confessed to being opium consumers, the ratio per cent. being 10·22 against 9·30 in 1921. Of the prisoners (27,435) discharged, 55·07 per cent. gained in weight, 16·29 lost weight, and 28·64 per cent. neither lost nor gained in weight, the corresponding ratios for 1921 being 56·71, 15·61 and 27·68. Certain improvements were made in the scale of diet in force, *viz.*, (1) the issue of four ounces beef or fish twice a month, instead of once a month, (2) an additional allowance of *dal* or *pegya* one ounce and of rice two ounces to prisoners employed on specially laborious work and to weight losers, and (3) revision of the scale of diet for prisoners classed as Europeans.

Vital.

Miscellaneous.

60. The juvenile jail at Meiktila continued to be run on practically the same lines as in the previous year except that a larger number of prisoners was employed on the agricultural farm attached to the jail. The jail has accommodation for 127 juvenile convicts of the non-habitual class, and for 19 undertrials. The daily average number of convicts was 121 and the maximum reached on any one day of the year was 131. The conduct of the young lifers (of whom there are 12) and those imprisoned for assault and stabbing was, on the whole, very good, but not so in the case of those sentenced for theft and cattle lifting. In addition to two hours' schooling, an evening class was started to give the boys instruction in elementary hygiene. The ethical welfare of the prisoners was well looked after. A small *kyaung* has been built in this jail and provided with an image of Buddha. The members of the committee of visitors, which met at the jail regularly once a month, have taken a keen interest in the management of this institution.

At the Insein Jail, juveniles of the habitual class were confined. As regards physical drill, manual training and education the procedure adopted at Meiktila was more or less followed. The number of juveniles admitted under 18 years of age was 298, and the daily average number under instruction 165. Of the 241 releases 37 were on admission able to read and write, 38 to read and 166 were illiterate. With the course of instruction received while in jail, 27 only were illiterate, when set at liberty, while 161 were able to read and write, and 53 able to read. Education was mainly confined to juveniles in the Rangoon, Insein, and Meiktila jails. The latter jail had the advantage of two paid teachers. The teaching at Rangoon and Insein was in the hands of well-behaved convicts. The annual inspection by the educational authorities showed that the work of the Meiktila School was satisfactory; that at the Rangoon Jail was also favourably reported on. The Juvenile School at Insein was not inspected in 1922.

Only eight prisoners out of a total of 5,531, who came under the remission system, failed to gain remission. The maximum remission gained by any convict released during the year was 74 days in the case of prisoners sentenced to one year, 171 days in the case of those sentenced to more than one but not exceeding two years, 425 days in the case of those over two but not exceeding five years and 1,048 days for those with over five years' sentence.

The "Burma Prisoners' Aid Society" was registered under Act XXI of 1860 during the year.

There were two cases of suicide during the year. The magisterial enquiry showed that death was due to hanging and that the jail officials were in no way to blame. The moral and spiritual welfare of the inmates of the jails received attention. At Mandalay, by the help of a *pôngyi*, and some Burmese gentlemen a small pagoda was erected inside the jail and here Buddhist prisoners are allowed to perform their devotions. There are similar *payas* at other jails and they are of moral and ethical value. Religious and racial customs of all classes of prisoners were sympathetically and adequately attended to.

The Salvation Army Industrial Institution, now known as the Juvenile Adult Criminal Institution, was reopened during the year. Thirty-one prisoners were conditionally released by the Local Government for transfer to that institution, which is said to be working satisfactorily.

Civil Justice.

Courts.

61. By the Burma Courts Act, 1922, which came into force on the 18th December 1922, the day on which the High Court of Judicature at Rangoon for the whole province was inaugurated (*vide* paragraph 49 *supra*), the two grades of divisional and district courts were replaced by a single grade of district courts. Before this the divisional and district courts in Upper Burma with the exception of the Mandalay District had been presided over by Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners; the province was now (except for nine remote or unimportant districts, in which the Deputy Commissioner still continued to be also District Judge) divided into 22 jurisdictions, to each of which a whole-time judicial officer was posted as District Judge. In Lower Burma these jurisdictions coincided for the most part with administrative districts; while in Upper Burma, except in Mandalay, they formed groups of two or three districts. At the same time the powers of subdivisional and township courts, as regards the valuation of suits, were enhanced from Rs. 3,000 and Rs. 500 to Rs. 5,000 and Rs. 1,000 respectively. With the arrangements made for greater specialization on judicial work, the total number of judges was 322 at the end of the year, against 357 at the end of 1921.

Suits.

62. The number of suits instituted rose from 66,950 to 69,325, the increase being largest in subdivisional courts. The increase was distributed more or less evenly over the province. It is probable that, just as in 1920 the sudden inflation of trade caused creditors to call in their debts to obtain capital for further development and prompted mortgagors to sue for the recovery of their land at what had then become a tithe of its market value, so the collapse of the boom in 1921 resulted in the filing of suits in 1922 to enforce contracts or their penalties, and for the recovery of loans by those who had to mobilize their resources at all costs to avoid bankruptcy. The value of suits showed an enormous rise, from Rs. 2,47·8 lakhs to Rs. 3,55·2 lakhs. District courts accounted for the bulk of this increase; and it was surmised that it was the effect of the inflation of land values between 1919 and 1921. The number of suits disposed of was 68,832, againt 68,331 in 1921. The courts thus failed to keep pace with the institution of suits, and the number pending at the end of the year was 8,607, or 1,266 more than at the end of 1921. For the province as a whole the average duration of suits did not compare favourably with that of the previous year, though some districts, particularly in Upper Burma, showed a marked improvement.

Appeals.

63. The number of appeals filed in district courts rose from 3,458 to 3,496; but the number disposed of fell from 3,588 to 3,323. The average duration was 57 days, against 50 and 78 respectively for Lower and Upper Burma in 1921. The percentage of confirmation was 61·7, against 62·4 in Lower and 59·8 in Upper Burma for the previcus year. The duration in divisional courts was reduced from 81 in Lower and 144 in Upper Burma to 73.

The High Courts.

64. The number of suits filed on the Original Side of the Chief Court was 677, against 727 in 1921; but the apparent decrease was due to the transfer to the Small Cause Court from October onwards of ejectment suits under the

Rangoon Rent Act, and did not therefore represent a real decrease of litigation. The aggregate value of suits was Rs. 40·47 lakhs, against over Rs. 55 lakhs in the previous year. The number of cases disposed of rose from 646 to 775 ; while the average duration was reduced from 328 to 308 days for contested cases and from 232 to 189 days for uncontested cases. There was a large increase in the number of applications for a declaration of insolvency. The number of regular appeals instituted was 560, an increase of 42 over the number in the previous year ; 546 were disposed of. The average duration of first appeals was reduced from 407 to 366 days, but that of second appeals rose from 238 to 244 days. The percentage of confirmation was 71·8, slightly higher than in 1921. Two appeals to the Privy Council were disposed of during the year, and 17 remained pending at the end.

The number of first appeals for disposal in the Court of the Judicial Commissioner was 264, or 38 more than in the previous year ; while the number of second appeals was 965, or 111 less. The total number disposed of was 847, against 754 in 1921. At the end of the year 382 were pending. It was evident that the work of the Judicial Commissioner's court had outgrown the system.

General.

65. The work of inspection of subordinate courts received less attention than was desirable. During the year a large number of buildings were begun for the accommodation of District and Sessions Judges, principally in Upper Burma. None were completed before the end of 1922.

Registration.

General.

66. On the 1st January 1920 the Excise Commissioner became *ex-officio* Inspector-General of Registration. The whole of the Transfer of Property Act was extended to Burma with a few exceptions as from 1st January 1922, but as the Act was already in force in Rangoon, Moulmein, Bassein and Akyab and the main sections throughout the rest of Burma, the extension is not expected to have much effect on registration. The attention of the public was directed to the rules for the return of documents by post, but there has been no perceptible increase in the number. The number of offices open at the end of the year was 166. Yenangyaung, formerly a sub-registration office under Magwe, was converted into a separate registration district.

Deeds registered.

67. The number and total value of documents registered continued to increase, with a slight fall in value, in 1922. The total of compulsory registrations rose from 91,604 in 1920 to 99,254 in 1922, the value rising from Rs. 14,53·05 lakhs to Rs. 16,60·54 lakhs, of which Lower Burma contributed Rs. 14,71·64 lakhs. The average value per document was Rs. 1,525 in 1920, Rs. 1,800 in 1921 and Rs. 1,600 in 1922. The year was a prosperous one for paddy cultivators, and the wave of land speculation in 1920 and 1921 especially in Rangoon and certain dry zone districts in Upper Burma ended, with effect on the figures of 1922. Instruments of mortgage increased in number and average value, especially in Upper Burma which had a succession of bad seasons and poor harvests in the dry zone. Gifts appear to be increasingly made to heirs by Buddhists

on remarriage or to avoid litigation after death. The number of documents registered in Upper Burma has increased steadily, the number of documents registered in Lower Burma for every 100 registered in Upper Burma being 470 in 1921 and 370 in 1922 ; but for every Rs. 100 of value registered in Upper Burma the value registered in Lower Burma was Rs. 1,710 in 1921 and Rs. 780 in 1922. Rangoon with 2,990 compulsory registrations valued at Rs. 260 lakhs in 1922 was easily the first, Myaungmya with 6,898 registrations, value Rs. 189 lakhs, being second.

Optional registrations regarding immovable property rose from 225, value Rs. 3·59 lakhs, in 1920 to 242, value Rs. 8·15 lakhs, in 1921 but fell to 176, value Rs. 2·97 lakhs, in 1922. The percentage of value sold to resident agriculturists, non-resident agriculturists and non-agriculturists in Lower Burma (excluding Rangoon) was 19·2 for 1921 and 51·8 for 1922 indicating a distinct improvement in the prosperity of agriculturists in Lower Burma. The number of sales to agriculturists exceeded those to non-agriculturists, and the number of sales to resident agriculturists also exceeded those to non-agriculturists.

Income and Expenditure.

68. The income of the department rose from Rs. 4·37 lakhs in 1920 to Rs. 5·08 lakhs in 1922, expenditure increasing from Rs. 1·23 lakhs to Rs. 1·49 lakhs. The income for the triennium, Rs. 14·26 lakhs, was double that for 1917—19, increases being shown under all important heads. The proportion of fees realised to total value is about 242 to 1,00,000, the increase of 20 per cent. over 1917—19 being due to the increased fees. The rise in expenditure was normal, the total for the triennium being Rs. 4·14 lakhs or 29·0 per cent. of the total income as compared with 49·5 in the triennium 1917—19.

Joint Stock Companies.

69. The number of new joint stock companies limited by shares again fell from 46 with a total authorised capital of Rs. 275·75 lakhs in 1921 to 27 with a capital of Rs. 81·05 lakhs in 1922 ; in addition one company with a capital of Rs. 10 lakhs, previously registered in Bengal, was transferred to Rangoon during the year, making a total of 28 with a capital of Rs. 91·05 lakhs. Sixteen had their offices in Rangoon and twelve in mofussil towns. They included one banking company, two transport companies, twelve trading and manufacturing companies, two milling companies, one tea-planting and produce company, three mining companies, two estate companies and five film companies. Thirty-eight companies increased their capital during the year, three increasing their authorised capital, one its subscribed capital and thirty-six their subscribed and paid-up capital, the most noticeable being over Rs. 1½ crores by a Rangoon trading firm. One banking and loan company and one land company reduced their capital during the year. Thirteen companies, with an authorised capital of Rs. 80·40 lakhs and a paid-up capital of Rs. 8·53 lakhs, went into liquidation, five of which had been registered in 1921. The total number of companies working at the end of the year was 240, with an authorised capital of Rs. 48,83 lakhs and paid-up capital of Rs. 26,22 lakhs. The number of companies outside British India (registered under section 277 of the Indian Companies Act, 1913) increased by four to 153. Two associations not for profit were

registered, bringing the total to 16, and seven societies representing social and philanthropic objects were registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860, bringing the total to 67. Prosecution under the Indian Penal Code, chiefly section 420, were instituted against the directors of three companies and the one decided case resulted in a conviction of two directors. The fees received fell from Rs. 17,369 in 1921 to Rs. 9,055 in 1922 and the cost of establishment rose from Rs. 935 to Rs. 1,166.

Local Boards Administration.

70. Local self-government in rural areas, by district councils and circle boards, was introduced under the Burma Rural Self-government Act, 1921, in the whole or the greater part of each of 28 districts during the closing months of the year 1922. The members of the district councils were elected by the circle boards, the members of which were elected by direct election on a wide franchise. The councils began work with funds mainly inherited from the district cess funds in Lower and the district funds in Upper Burma which they superseded, and on budgets prepared for them by Deputy Commissioners. They were largely occupied during the year under review with the entertainment of staff and establishment and other preliminary arrangements. No comprehensive report of their activities within that year is available.

Municipal Administration.

Rangoon Municipality.

71. The constitution of the Rangoon Municipality was entirely revised by the City of Rangoon Municipal Act, 1922, which came into force on the 1st August 1922, superseding for Rangoon the Burma Municipal Act of 1898. The former municipal committee of 25 members was replaced by a body known as the Corporation consisting of 34 members, of whom 29 are elected on a system of communal representation and five are appointed by the Local Government. The Corporation is the principal municipal authority, with subordinate authorities in the education board and standing committees appointed by the Corporation. The executive, with the Municipal Commissioner at its head, is completely subordinate to the Corporation. The powers of the Corporation are in many ways wider and more useful than those exercised by the old municipal committee; and they are exercised subject only to the general control of the Local Government. The first general election of councillors under the new constitution was held on the 28th November 1922. It was remarkable for the displacement of a number of veterans in municipal administration in favour of new and younger men.

Extraordinary items excluded, the total income for the year was Rs. 63·30 lakhs, against Rs. 59·56 lakhs in the previous year. Over three-quarters of the increase was derived from municipal rates and taxes, owing entirely to the revision of property assessments. No new rate or tax was introduced or proposed. The incidence of taxation per head of population rose by 13 annas to Rs. 12-13-11 The ordinary expenditure from revenue was Rs. 63·72 lakhs, against Rs. 63·52 lakhs in the previous year. Municipal loans outstanding at the beginning of the year, excluding loans for reclamation work which have been taken over by the Rangoon Development Trust, amounted to Rs. 120·88.

Rs. 0·57 lakh were repaid during the year, while Rs. 4·74 lakhs were paid into the sinking fund and Rs. 5·29 lakhs were paid as interest. In place of the suggested new loan of Rs. 45 lakhs from Government, it was decided to raise a sterling loan of £300,000. In the meantime loan works in progress continued to be financed by advances from revenue.

The engineering department was during the year split up into two, one for the charge of water-supply and sewerage and the other for that of roads and buildings. No change of importance took place in the water-supply. The Hlawga reservoir filled well with the abundant rains, and complaints of shortage of water were less numerous than in former years. Little advance was made in the search for fresh sources of supply. A scheme for additional tube-wells for Kemmendine was taken in hand, and another for a supply to Dalla by means of an elevated tank to be filled by boat from the Ahlone tube-well, was proposed. The problem of the maintenance of roads in efficient repair, in view of modern methods of transport by high speed motor vehicles, continued to increase in difficulty. Funds did not permit of any extension of the asphalte or stone sett paving ; but pitch grouted macadam was laid in a number of streets in the central part of the town, while others were reconstructed with stone soling topped by macadam. Many other streets, however, could no longer be kept in efficient repair by patching, and showed signs of imminent collapse which could only be remedied by complete reconstruction. Designs and estimates for the new municipal market on Montgomery Street were under preparation, a selection being made from competitive designs for the frontage. Close municipal control of the meat supply continued. An interesting feature was the continuous increase in the number of sheep brought to market from Upper Burma, displacing the supply from Calcutta.

Other Municipalities.

72. The number of municipalities in the Province (excluding Rangoon) rose from 47 in 1921-22 to 51 with a consequent rise in the population from 738,738 to 769,690. The elective system has been introduced into all these municipalities, except Bhamo. Forty-eight of the 51 chairmen were elected non-officials, one was an elected official who had been co-opted and two were nominated officials. The total strength of the committees number 697, of whom 6 were *ex-officio*, 62 were nominated, 551 were elected and 78 were co-opted ; 62 of the 697 were officials and 635 non-officials. There were 56 Europeans and 641 Burmans, Indians and others.

The boundaries of Nattalin (defined on conversion into a municipality), Ngathainggyaung and Bhamo municipalities were revised : 1,629 persons were transferred from Ngathainggyaung with the alteration of the west boundary to the Ngawun river.

Eight of the 12 elected members of Mônywa municipality resigned in May 1922 owing to a difference of opinion with the Commissioner, North-West Border Division, but 6 were subsequently re-elected and after nearly four months' administration by the Deputy Commissioner, the normal working of the municipality was resumed.

Seventeen of the 1,281 meetings proved abortive for want of a quorum as compared with 15 out of 1,043 in the previous year. The average percentage of officials present at meetings was 74·07 and of non-officials 61·81. The interest taken in the new constitution is indicated by these figures. A few committees declined to co-opt the medical and engineering officials of the locality.

Apart from opening balances amounting to Rs. 19,61,204 and debt accounts amounting to Rs. 7,85,274, the total income of the municipalities was Rs. 58,51,215 as compared with Rs. 53,70,731 in the previous year. The income from municipal rates and taxes rose from Rs. 21,98,234 to Rs. 22,43,545 and there was also an increase in revenue derived from Municipal property and powers from Rs. 25,13,455 to Rs. 27,34,877, the largest item of increase being the revenue and fees from markets and slaughter-houses (Rs. 1,55,005) and from pawnshop licenses (Rs. 37,515). The other items showed no considerable changes. Revenue from grants and contributions increased from Rs. 5,12,446 to Rs. 6,75,700, Mandalay receiving Rs. 1,31,320 and Myingyan Rs. 1,00,000 both for general purposes. Loans from Government to Mandalay of Rs. 3,50,000 and a loan raised by Syriam from the Burmah Oil Company, Limited, of Rs. 1,00,000 for a new jetty increased the total of loans from Rs. 1,61,195 to Rs. 5,00,000. The incidence of taxation per head of population fell slightly from Rs. 2-15-7 to Rs. 2-14-8, the average incidence of income rising from Rs. 7-4-4 to Rs. 8-9-11. The revenue from bazaar rents, licenses and from slaughter-house fees represent in many instances the main source of income and the revenue from water, lighting, latrine and conservancy tax are also in many instances insufficient to meet the expenditure. In some towns the slaughter-house fees and meat market rents fell owing to the agitation of *Wunthanu athins* against beef eating. The taxation of houses by frontage is recognised as inequitable but there is delay in adopting generally the better system of taxation on rentals.

Arrears of taxes outstanding at the beginning of the year amounted to Rs. 93,018 : the amount at the end of the year was Rs. 59,844. The largest item Rs. 9,594 was in Zigôn and legal process in the High Court was being taken to collect this amount. Other outstandings were, Akyab (Rs. 6,355) and Tavoy (Rs. 5,739). The figures of outstandings show an improvement on that in preceding years. Nine municipalities (including Moulmein) had no outstandings.

Ordinary expenditure fell from the high level of Rs. 61,87,238 in 1921-22 to Rs. 56,68,960 : increases under various heads (general administration Rs. 87,947, public safety Rs. 22,710, public instruction Rs. 30,276, conservancy Rs. 67,386) being offset by decreases under refunds (Rs. 4,02,853) and roads (Rs. 1,40,975). Hospitals represented Rs. 9,49,765 as against Rs. 10,24,782 in 1921-22 and the total expenditure on public health and convenience fell from Rs. 42,06,115 to Rs. 39,35,578.

The total capital expenditure was Rs. 96,262 (of which Pegu accounted for Rs. 94,684) as against Rs. 1,40,863 in 1921-22 also largely in Pegu. Establishment charges, repair, etc., fell from Rs. 3,57,509 to Rs. 2,63,527. Every municipality that has a water-supply or drainage scheme appears to demand the immediate and undivided attention of the Superintending Engineer, Department of Public Health, and as this is an impossible request, complaints of delay are recorded.

The absence of regular water-supply in case of fire is mentioned in several instances. Serious fires took place during the year at several places. Two outbreaks in Meiktila resulted in 11 houses being burnt, the loss being estimated at Rs. 50,000. Akyab reports losses of Rs. 13,552, Thôngwa Rs. 3,000, Paungdè Rs. 30,000, Mandalay 29 fires with a total loss of Rs. 3,56,175 (one being estimated at Rs. 1,48,500). Fires, the loss occasioned by which is not stated, took place at Gyobingauk (32 houses), Pegu (the market was threatened but the engine was not

available for use), Prome, Kyaiklat, Bassein and Moulmein (8 fires, none serious). In the few cases where there are engines the brigades are either voluntary or composed of coolies.

No capital expenditure in connection with drainage work was incurred, but recurring charges for existing schemes rose from Rs. 30,847 to Rs. 37,076. Most of the drains are mere roadside cuttings and there are very few masonry drains.

Expenditure on hospitals and dispensaries which had risen from Rs. 9,75,173 in 1920-21 to Rs. 10,24,782 in 1921-22 fell to Rs. 9,49,765 of which Mandalay accounted for nearly 20 per cent. (Rs. 1,83,582). A new dispensary and hospital have been built, one-third of the cost being defrayed by subscriptions, at Kyangin. An out-door dispensary paid for by the district cess fund was built at Kyaiklat, but the new scheme of hospital finance has not been accepted although a new hospital is admittedly needed. The Yenangyaung hospital is wholly paid for by the Waste Oil Committee, but the municipality have admitted their liability to contribute. Donations to the Pakôkku hospital, by Chettyars and a village headman (who gave Rs. 1,000 with a promise of Rs. 4,000 to follow) are reported. The Thôngwa Society for the promotion of infant welfare proved unable to maintain the maternity ward from its own resources. The Burma Railways Company, Limited, maintain hospitals and dispensaries at Insein and Myitngè. Rs. 438 was raised by subscription in Pyawbwè, Rs. 758 in Mawlamyainggyun, Rs. 359 in Kawkareik, Rs. 544 in Minbya, Syriam Rs. 2,889, Bassein Rs. 2,952, Akyab Rs. 2,176, Paungdè Rs. 215, Toungoo Rs. 1,150, Pyapôn Rs. 3,362, Thayetmyo Rs. 794, Moulmein Rs. 2,319, figures chosen at random which show that the public do respond to appeals from hospitals. In memory of U Mra U the sum of Rs. 8,000 has been given to the Akyab hospital for an X-ray room. The two hospitals at Pakôkku (Civil and Police) have been united. A Mawlamyainggyun resident has offered to build an additional ward to the local hospital. The result system midwives appear to give general satisfaction.

A further increase took place in the expenditure under "public instruction" from Rs. 3,88,431 to Rs. 4,18,706, all three heads (schools and colleges, contributions and libraries, museum, etc.) showing increases.

A small decrease from Rs. 1,85,601 to Rs. 1,78,102 was reported under the head of miscellaneous.

The usual audit and inspection of local fund accounts by the Audit Department shows a result which on the whole may be called "fairly satisfactory." The combination of secretary and engineer at Toungoo has not proved to be desirable. At Shwegyin a burglary of the committee's office resulted in the disappearance of cash books, cheques, etc., rendering investigation of the position very difficult. Examinations have been held to test the municipal secretaries in knowledge of the rules, regulations and bye-laws applicable to municipalities. An efficient secretary is a great asset to a town.

By the conversion of Yenangyaung into a municipality the number of notified areas decreased from 22 to 21, the population fell from 123,415 to 105,062. Excluding opening balances Rs. 3,69,377 and extraordinary income Rs. 3,24,189 the total income fell from Rs. 9,30,057 to Rs. 9,07,290, revenue from taxation falling from Rs. 3,21,064 to Rs. 2,98,818. Maymyo, owing to many new houses having been built had again the highest incidence of taxation (Rs. 7-10-5 as compared with Rs. 7-2-2) and the highest incidence of income (Rs. 20-2-3 as against

Rs. 19-9-11). The Maymyo dairy farm has not proved profitable nor has the outturn of milk been sufficient to meet the demand. Sites for 173 new houses have been indicated and a public park is being laid out. Income of the notified areas from other sources fell from Rs. 6,08,993 to Rs. 6,08,497. The incidence of taxation per head of population rose from Rs. 2-9-8 to Rs. 2-13-6 and the incidence of income from Rs. 7-3-7 to Rs. 8-10-2. Ordinary expenditure fell from Rs. 8,93,273 to Rs. 8,84,485 and extraordinary expenditure from Rs. 1,08,400 to Rs. 21,848. The closing balances were Rs. 3,94,522, compared with Rs. 4,55,085 in 1921-22.

The school funds in Lower Burma (Akyab, Bassein, Ngathainggyaung, Henzada, Myaungmya, Wakèma, Ma-ubin and Yandoon) had receipts during the year of Rs. 72,609-9-10 and expenditure of Rs. 71,173-4-2; Mandalay, the only school fund in Upper Burma, received Rs. 55,828 and spent Rs. 46,691.

The registration of the number of births and deaths is reported to be improving, but the detection of 98 unregistered births at Pyawbwe indicates that there is still room for improvement. No figures are given of the births and deaths in Wakèma and Bhamo. The likelihood of error is greater in the case of births than of deaths, and still-births are often not reported. In only eleven municipalities did the births exceed the deaths. Decrease of deaths was reported from Akyab, Kyaukpyu, Thônzè, Zigôn, Paungdè, Bassein, Henzada, Myaungmya, Kyaiklat, Toungoo, Thatôn, Moulmein, Tavoy, Mergui, Thayetmyo, Pakôkku and Mandalay. Cholera was reported from 16 municipalities and accounted for 130 deaths in Prome, 127 in Bassein, 67 in Kyônpyaw, 62 in Yandoon, 56 in Yenangyaung, 54 in Pyapôn and 43 in Wakèma, all riverine areas. Plague was reported from 29 municipalities and took a heavy toll of 442 deaths in Prome, 267 in Pyinmana, 231 in Shwebo, 205 in Bassein, 185 in Mandalay (against 1,084 in 1921-22). Small-pox was nowhere serious.

Military.

Strength of the Garrison.

73. The total strength of troops forming the garrison of Burma on the 31st March 1923 was 6,971 of whom 1,932 were Europeans. In addition the Auxiliary Force numbered 1,965 adults of the active class and 1,465 reservists.

Marine.

Light-houses and Light-ships.

74. The R.I.M.S. "Clive" was the station vessel during the year under review; in addition to her station duties she was utilized for towing Government launches to and from outports to Rangoon for their annual overhaul and repairs and for conveying Government consignments and specie to various ports. She was relieved for a short period, by the R.I.M.S. "Elphinstone," for her annual overhaul and refit, and resumed her station duties in January 1923. All the light-houses and light-vessels were maintained in an efficient condition during the year and the health of the light-keepers and crews of the light-vessels was good. The relieving and rationing of the light-house at Eastern Grove and the light-vessel "Kemmendine" at the Spit were satisfactorily carried out by a local boat contractor and similar

duties for the light-house at Table Island were performed by the Port Blair station ship on her periodical visits to Rangoon. The relief light-vessel " Martaban " which was placed at China Bakir temporarily owing to the closing down of the China Bakir light-house, was relieved by the Spit light-vessel " Kemmendine " for her annual repairs. On completion of her repairs, the " Martaban " relieved the light-vessel " Kalagouk " at Krishna Shoal for her annual repairs. The " Kalagouk " in turn relieved the " Martaban " which was then taken and placed at the Baragua Flats. As some of the light-vessels are very old, the need of four new ones is very urgently felt.

The total expenditure on light-houses and light-ships rose from Rs. 3·79 lakhs to Rs. 4·56 lakhs ; the increase was shared by all heads except contract contingencies and allowances to officers of the station vessel, and was most marked under Public Works Department charges on works and repairs to light-houses and light-vessels. The receipts from coast-light dues fell slightly to Rs. 5·91 lakhs. The annual *pro formâ* account of the Burma coast light dues showed a loss of Rs. 42,252 on the year's working as compared with a loss of Rs. 2,950 in 1921-22.

Rangoon Port Administration.

75. For the year 1922-23 the surplus on the working of the Commissioners for the Port of Rangoon amounted to Rs. 8·26 lakhs against Rs. 9·24 lakhs in 1921-22. Receipts were Rs. 76·94 lakhs (as against Rs. 75·19 lakhs) and payments (including reserve fund transfers Rs. 2·75 lakhs) Rs. 68·68, as against Rs. 65·95 lakhs in 1921-22 and Rs. 54·12 lakhs in 1920-21. The increase on receipts was due to general increased trade, but the surcharges imposed in 1921-22 were discontinued and a revised schedule of charges was introduced on 1st July 1922. The rate of port dues was reduced from six to five annas per ton on 1st January 1923 and the rate of river dues from eight to seven annas per ton on 1st April 1923. The increase in expenditure was due to salaries of new appointments, additional cost of upkeep of two new launches, higher rates for labour and increased municipal taxes due to increased revenue. A loan of Rs. 50 lakhs was obtained from Government repayable in twenty years by forty half-yearly instalments and the over-draft on the Imperial Bank of India of Rs. 38·16 lakhs was paid-off. Borrowings on capital account (including the Government loan and bank overdraft of Rs. 9 lakhs) amounted to Rs. 3,57 lakhs, while the total at credit of sinking funds for redemption of debenture loans rose from Rs. 93·46 lakhs to Rs. 103·91 lakhs. The principal operation on capital account were purchases of land at Kemmendine Rs. 6·00 lakhs and land at Cheape Road for officers' quarters Rs. 1·50 lakhs, reclamation of land at Kemmendine, Monkey Point, Thompson Street and Botataung, new harbour moorings, housing at Monkey Point, extension of jetties, cost of new launches, etc., and part payment for fire-float. The credit balance of revenue reserves, fire and marine insurance, depreciation and replacement and special reserve funds amounted to Rs. 54·08 lakhs.

The total sea-borne trade of Rangoon fell from the very high level of 1921-22 (4,562,094 tons) to 4,306,567 tons of which 1,171,318 tons were imports, 3,128,311 tons exports and 6,938 tons transhipped. The amount which passed over the Commissioners' premises was 1,383,873 tons of sea-borne trade, 757,364 tons river borne traffic and 437,799 tons rail-borne, the total, 2,579,036 tons, being 67,941 tons over the previous year's record figures. Passenger traffic rose from 573,324 in the calendar year 1921 to 587,004 in 1922, the arrivals increasing by 14,174

to 320,606 and the departures falling by 494 from 266,892 to 266,398. Bonded warehouse accommodation for sugar was increased to cope with a demand, also the licensed capacity of the magazine from 60,000 lbs. to 65,000 lbs. Revenue from warehouses and magazines rose to Rs. 1·44 lakhs, and rents for lands from Rs. 3·23 lakhs to 3·92 lakhs.

The King's Bank reclamation scheme, which will cost about Rs. 40 lakhs spread over five years, was approved by the Government of India in February 1923 on the understanding that the proposed training wall will not be insufficient if the outer harbour scheme is abolished and that a ship channel through the Hastings Shoal to the inner harbour will be ensured, and that, if necessary, the proposed wall can be extended and the river further narrowed. The surveys and borings in connection with the Dawbon area as a suitable site for docks were completed; the Chief Engineer reported that no engineering difficulty is likely to be met with in the construction of docks. The Government of India approved of a sum not exceeding Rs. 10 lakhs being spent on the acquisition of land at Dawbon for the future development of the port, and the acquisition of the necessary area was begun. Reclamation of the land at Hteedan, Kemmendine, for the timber depôt was begun, also the reclamation of Botataung Creek from Strand Road to the river, which will add 2½ acres of land to Commissioners' estate and which involved provision of a culvert 7 feet 6 inches internal diameter 800 feet long. The transfer of the coal depôts to the Rowett Street and Lower Pazundaung depôts was begun by the removal of six timber jetties and Rowett's Bazaar. The Monkey Point housing scheme, which was completed, provided accommodation for eight officers, 18 subordinates and 45 menials. The maintenance and repairs of the Commissioners' property in good order cost Rs. 10·78 lakhs as compared with Rs. 9·68 lakhs and the increasing age of the buildings, pontoons, moorings, etc., will involve substantial expenditure within the next few years. The training wall continues in good condition, the average settlement in nine years being 1·013 feet. The Municipal Commissioner and the Chairman of the Rangoon Development Trust were appointed *ex-officio* Commissioners in place of the President of the late Municipal Committee and the Commissioner of Police.

Rangoon Pilot Service.

76. The Rangoon Pilot Fund had a surplus on the year's working of Rs. 1,35,591, receipts increasing from Rs. 6·90 lakhs to Rs. 7·57 lakhs and payments fell from Rs. 6·52 lakhs (including Rs. 1·38 lakhs cost of the "Lanbya") to Rs. 6·22 lakhs, the ordinary payment showing an increase of Rs. 1·08 lakhs owing to the upkeep of a steam-vessel. Out of the total at credit of net revenue (Rs. 2,21,943) a sum of Rs. 92,420 was paid for the cost of bringing S.S. "Beacon" to Rangoon and repairs, leaving a balance of Rs. 1,29,522 carried forward on net revenue account. The amount paid to pilots increased with the number of vessels piloted. The amount at credit of the Pilot Vessels Depreciation Fund stood on 31st March 1923 at Rs. 2,76,747, an increase of Rs. 10,104.

Minor Ports.

77. Besides Rangoon, there are six ports in the province—Akyab, Kyaukpyu, Bassein, Moulmein, Tavoy and Mergui,—in which port funds are maintained. The total receipts and expenditure of these funds were Rs. 10·95 lakhs and Rs. 10·76 lakhs respectively, against Rs. 8·52 lakhs and Rs. 7·96 lakhs in the previous year. There was an increase of receipts in all the

funds except Moulmein and Mergui, and an increase of expenditure in all except Bassein, Moulmein and Kyaukpyu. In Akyab the closing balance declined by Rs. 10,568 owing to an excess of expenditure over receipts.

There are three pilot funds in Burma besides the Rangoon fund, namely, Akyab, Bassein and Moulmein. These funds derive their income solely from pilotage fees and the expenditure consists of the cost of maintenance of pilot vessels and of payment of salaries to pilots. The aggregate receipts for the year under report exceeded those of the previous year by over a lakh of rupees, the figures being Rs. 2·63 lakhs and Rs. 1·61 lakhs respectively. The former includes a loan of half a lakh of rupees received from Government by the Akyab and Moulmein pilot funds. There was an increase in expenditure, the figures being Rs. 1·93 lakhs and Rs. 1·71 lakhs respectively. The closing balances of all the funds were larger than those of the previous year.

Commercial Marine : Shipping.

78. Repeated voyages are taken into account in the statistics given in this paragraph, and coasting trade means trade with Indian ports, whether British or not. The number of vessels entering ports in Burma increased from 5,215 in 1921-22 to 5,693 in the year of report, their aggregate tonnage showing a corresponding increase from 3,950,754 to 4,537,836. The number of vessels clearing from ports in Burma rose similarly from 4,471 aggregating 3,919,775 tons to 4,982 with a gross tonnage of 4,557,759. About 70 per cent. of the number and 75 per cent. of the tonnage of vessels entering Rangoon were British or British Indian. Japanese vessels fell from 82 to 77 and American from 37 to 36, but German vessels rose from 18 to 36 and Dutch from 33 to 77.

The total number of vessels engaged in foreign trade, which entered the ports of Burma, was 515 with an aggregate tonnage of 1,167,076 against 468 vessels with an aggregate tonnage of 1,079,539 in the previous year. The total clearances numbered 687 vessels aggregating 1,532,598 tons against 610 with a gross tonnage of 1,291,236 in the year 1921-22. Of the vessels entering, sailing ships numbered 80 of 18,324 tons as compared with 91 of 17,220 tons in the previous year; of the vessels clearing, sailing ships numbered 150 of 30,055 tons against 176 of 29,392 tons in the previous year. The number of vessels entering Rangoon from foreign ports rose from 318 to 343 and their tonnage from 977,110 to 1,027,620; and the number clearing rose from 379 to 444 and their tonnage from 1,157,617 to 1,353,426. Of the vessels entering, sailing ships numbered 5 of 5,174 tons, and of the vessels clearing, the same number with a tonnage of 4,142. Corresponding figures for the previous year were 6 of 1,463 tons and 17 of 2,882 tons, respectively.

The number of vessels engaged in the coasting trade, which entered the ports of Burma, increased from 4,747 with a tonnage of 2,871,215 to 5,178 aggregating 3,370,760 tons. There was a similar increase in the number which cleared, from 3,861 to 4,295 the tonnage rising from 2,628,539 to 3,025,161. Of the vessels entering, sailing ships numbered 3,191 of 104,327 tons, and of those clearing, 2,416 of 91,089 tons. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 2,870 of 117,487 tons and 2,056 of 89,305 tons. Of the vessels engaged in the coasting trade, 1,054 steamers with an aggregate tonnage of 2,269,362 entered Rangoon against 1,016 steamers with an aggregate tonnage of 2,066,157 in the previous year; and 949 steamers aggregating 1,947,709 tons cleared as against 967 steamers of 1,900,235 tons in 1921-22. The number of

sailing ships that entered the port fell considerably from 365 to 244 and their tonnage from 25,360 to 15,228 ; the number of sailing vessels that cleared also declined considerably from 350 to 252 with a corresponding fall in tonnage from 22,800 to 16,158.

The number of British vessels, excluding native craft, which entered the ports of Burma from foreign countries, increased from 369 in 1921-22 to 382 in 1922-23 ; native craft fell from 13 to 3. The number of foreign vessels rose from 86 to 130. Two vessels each under the Chinese and Danish flags and three under the Italian, visited the province during the year of report against none in the previous year. Vessels under the Dutch, German, Japanese and Norwegian flags rose from 14, 1, 44 and 1 to 43, 5, 49 and 2 respectively while those under the American flag declined from 22 to 20.

In the coasting trade, the number of vessels entering, which flew British colours increased from 1,647 to 1,703 ; those which flew foreign colours from 101 to 143 and native craft from 2,046 to 2,452.

Commercial Marine: Wrecks and Casualties.

79. During the year of report casualties to shipping within the port of Rangoon numbered 18, mostly of a minor nature. In one case it was found necessary to censure and reduce a pilot temporarily and in two cases special courts of enquiry were held under the Indian Merchant Shipping Act, 1883. In the first of these cases no misconduct or incompetency was found, and in the second case the Local Government had not recorded its finding at the close of the year.

Outside Rangoon, steam-launches were involved in seven collisions resulting in the loss of a number of cargo boats. Three sailing craft were caught in cyclones and foundered ; in one case seven of the crew drifted away in a boat and were not heard of again. A native *dhow* lost her rudder in bad weather and, as she was leaking badly, was abandoned by her crew. A sailing brig which encountered severe weather on her voyage to the Nicobar Islands, sprang a leak and foundered off the coast of the Andaman Islands, with a loss of one of her crew. A paddle steamer belonging to the Irrawaddy Flotilla Company struck a rock off Myinmu and was badly damaged, while a fire destroyed the whole upper structure of a salvage steamer belonging to the same company. There was no loss of life.

Government Steamers and Launches.

80. The year opened with 202 Government vessels of all descriptions. One steam-trawler, four steam-launches, fifteen motor-boats and launches three house-boats, and two dredgers were added to the fleet during the year, while a house-boat was condemned and sold, and a motor-launch and a barge foundered, leaving 224 vessels of all kinds at the end of the year. These were made up of 92 steam-launches, 69 motor-boats and launches, 16 house-boats, 14 flats, eight dredgers, seven barges, four light-ships, three cargo-boats, two buoy vessels, a trawler, a steam-pinnace, a water-boat, a mooring-boat, a pony-boat, a rock-smasher and a hulk. The steam-launch which was hired by Government in 1920-21 was discharged during the year of report. The earnings of the Royal Indian Marine vessels "Bhamo" and "Sladen" increased by nearly half a lakh of rupees to Rs. 1·49 lakhs. The vessels working under various departments were in good condition and continued to be fully employed. The fuelling arrangements carried out by the Forest Department were, as usual, satisfactory. The value of

stores received in the marine store godowns at Mandalay, Bassein and Rangoon, was Rs. 2·37 lakhs against Rs. 1·64 lakhs in 1921-22, and at the Government dockyard store godown at Rangoon, Rs. 4·77 lakhs against Rs. 6·61 lakhs; the value of stores issued from the store godowns amounted to Rs. 8·17 lakhs, against Rs. 8·97 lakhs in the previous year. The Government saw-mill at Mandalay worked throughout the year in converting logs into sawn timber for the Public Works Department.

Marine Works and Surveys.

81. In the Port of Rangoon, the dredger "Cormorant" worked in the Monkey Point Channel, Dunneedaw Reach and Western Approach. She removed one and a quarter million tons of sand and silt, and throughout the dry season maintained a depth of water of not less than 13 feet reduced on the principal tracks of these channels. The "Hastings" dredged 100,700 tons at the various wharves and jetties. New surveys of the river-bed from Mower's Point to Botataung were undertaken and completed during the year. Surveys of the river-bed from North D'Silva Point to Hmawwin Beacon, from Elephant Point to below the lower western buoy, and from harbour limits to North D'Silva Point were also completed during the year. The channels of the river and the edges of shoals were periodically surveyed and pilots and other interested persons kept notified of changes. The Monkey Point Channel, the Dunneedaw Reach and the western approach to it were regularly sounded over and detailed plotted surveys made every week.

CHAPTER IV.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

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Agriculture.

Occupied and Cultivated Area.

82. The total area of the province, classified areas, was 97,456,269 acres, an increase of 6,267 acres due to settlement operations in Magwe. The total, including hill areas, is 155,674,694 acres. Of the classified

areas the occupied portion was 19,386,973 acres, an increase of 155,740 acres, or 0·81 per cent., a smaller rate of increase than in 1921. The cultivated area rose by 278,047 acres to 15,602,407 acres, and the area on which crops matured rose by 187,054 acres to 14,392,407 acres. These increases, which were general, were due to normal extension of cultivation and the effect of previous high prices of produce. Accretions in the old bed of the Sittang and along the coast caused increases in Pegu and the Yandoon Island colony in Ma-ubin. Such decreases as were reported were small (except 3,940 acres in Thayetmyo where the early rain was deficient) and unimportant. The fallowed area fell by 122,307 acres, in spite of an increase of 27,915 acres in Shwebo due to unfavourable rains and untimely supply of water from canals : there are signs of migration to the Ye-u canal area. Exclusion from registers of land virtually abandoned in the past affected Thayetmyo and Upper Burma districts. Early flood prevented sowings in some districts and elsewhere lands were cultivated only to be flooded out, with, in some cases, late cultivation following early subsidence of floods.

The area sown with rice increased by over a quarter of a million acres to just under eleven million acres. Other cereals—wheat, red and white millet, maize, and gram—totalled 1,458,257 acres. Sesamum, still the largest single crop after rice, but always speculative, fell below a million acres, the decrease being marked in the early variety. Gram, thanks to late rainfall in Upper Burma and to the introduction of a new strain called Karachi gram, again increased, but maize fell off, and wheat, of which 63,652 acres were sown, though a third more than 1921-22, is still inconsiderable. All the condiments and the spices increased, but sugarcane fell a little owing to unfavourable market, and tobacco increased over 25 per cent. Beans diminished, especially the smaller white variety, while rubber increased thanks to recovery in price. The area under cotton fell, partly because of sesamum with which it is often mixed, and partly due to unsatisfactory past results.

Area irrigated.

83. The area irrigated rose from 1,315,130 to 1,375,840 acres equal to 4·80 per cent., the gross area irrigated increasing in practically the same proportion. Despite the extension of the Ye-u canal system the Shwebo area which rose by 50,000 acres in 1921-22 fell by 9,875 acres as owing to drought there was not enough water to supply lands at the tail of the system. Plentiful supplies increased the irrigated areas in Mandalay, Kyaukse and Minbu, and both Yamèthin and Meiktila rose by over 28,000 acres shared by Government and private works.

The Agricultural Department.

84. Three new agricultural circles were opened during the year : the East Central Circle, with headquarters at Pyinmana, for the study of general agricultural problems and in particular of sugar-cane ; the Arakan Circle, with headquarters at Akyab, for the study of the agricultural problems of the Arakan Division ; and the Irrawaddy Circle, with headquarters at Myaungmya, for the investigation of delta problems. Four Deputy Directors were recruited during the year. There were 31 students under training at the Agricultural College at Poona at the beginning of the year, of whom 14 were in the third year. Of these 14, eleven passed out and were appointed Senior Agricultural Assistants on return to Burma. Two who failed to pass were given Junior Agricultural Assistants' posts. Six out of ten students completed the course for Junior

Assistants at Mandalay, and were posted to the various circles. Short courses of practical instruction for farmers were held at the Mahlaing and Hmawbi agricultural stations, but at the latter they were not well attended, possibly because they were not short enough. Good progress was made with the Agricultural College building at Mandalay.

Agricultural Research.

85. A new station was opened at Akyab. Plant breeding and selection of rice was continued during the year at the Mandalay and Hmawbi stations. Paddy selection work at Mandalay was handed over to the Economic Botanist. An experiment on the manuring of nurseries tended to support previous experience that the lead gained by the seedlings in manured nurseries is lost when they are transplanted. A fresh collection of sesamum varieties was made at Tatkôn and placed in charge of the Economic Botanist. Experiments with drilled versus broadcasted sesamum continued. Tests of Burmese types of groundnut as contrasted with the Spanish type were continued to the advantage of the latter. The erect Spanish type, besides producing more oil, is more easily harvested and being earlier is more suitable as a double or second crop. The Agricultural Chemist continued his work on the selection of Burma beans for the elimination of prussic acid. Other selections were made for the isolation of pure strains. Work on cotton consisted of selections of indigenous types and the introduction of exotics. Experiments with sugar-cane were conducted at Mandalay, Hmawbi, Hopin and Tatkôn. It was shown that the crop was unsuitable for the Mandalay black cotton soil. At the other stations useful collections of exotic varieties were maintained. The Economic Botanist made some study of orange rust, one of the worst enemies of wheat in Burma. A number of apparently rust-free plants were selected for further test. A variety of gram from Karachi has been introduced which is apparently immune from the fungus disease that attacks Burma gram. A large collection of new gram varieties from India was also made during the year and a few more apparently immune types were isolated. A small station was acquired in Akyab for the study of coconuts. Experiments with an Indian tobacco were done in the Thayetmyo District, where a small experimental farm for this crop was proposed. An orchard for the study of tropical fruits was begun an Hmawbi. Mention should be made of the successful designing by the Agricultural Engineer of a jaggery furnace which will work on dried cane alone as fuel, the designing of a new plough-share which can be fitted to the Burmese plough at small cost but with a great increase of efficiency, and the solution by the Agricultural Chemist of the paddy par-boiling problem.

Seed Distribution and Demonstration.

86. Distribution of paddy seed continued from the Mandalay and Hmawbi farms. The department's seed from Mandalay is very popular in the Kyauksè District, and from Hmawbi in Insein and Hanthawaddy. A small seed farm was maintained in the Pegu District; and arrangements were also made to stock three holdings on the Kadônbaw colony with pure strains. Pure strains supplied by the department generally commanded a premium of Rs. 10 above the market price at the mills. A short-lived Japanese paddy distributed from both Mandalay and Hmawbi showed increasing popularity. It was estimated that a total area of some 100,000 acres was under the department's pure seed. Among crops other than paddy, the principal success was

achieved with gram, some 28,000 acres being under Karachi gram seed distributed from the Padu farm. Progress with cotton seed was again hampered by an unfavourable season. Spanish and Japanese groundnuts were distributed from Mahlaing, with increasing popularity. Sugar-cane setts distributed from Tatkôn, Hmawbi and Hopin numbered 44,076. Wheat distribution took place in the Shan States from three private seed farms stocked with the department's strains. The paying possibilities of double-cropping with erect groundnut and *pèsinngon* in the dry zone were shown on six demonstration plots in Shwebo ; and arrangements were made for similar demonstration on a larger scale in future. Near Mahlaing the sowing of cotton with seed drill was demonstrated. A demonstration was given at Thawatti of the working of the new jaggery furnace designed by the Agricultural Engineer. At the Padu farm a demonstration of the work done on gram and wheat was attended by 76 cultivators. Three cattle shows were held during the year, at Mandalay, Allanmyo and Ngazun, the last being run by a township committee. The Mandalay show was the most successful. The total value of implements sold by the department was Rs. 9,000. The high prices of European implements still militated against their adoption.

Veterinary Departmental Staff and Veterinary School.

87. The staff of the Civil Veterinary Department, Burma, on 31st March 1923, consisted of only two Superintendents, Mr. Rennie having gone on leave eighteen days previous and the services of Captain Idle having been transferred in 1922 to the Agricultural Department for stock breeding. There were six Deputy Superintendents (of whom one was on probation), 25 inspectors, 16 permanent and nine acting (of whom 12 were in lower and 11 in Upper Burma and two in the Shan States) and 193 veterinary assistants of whom 102 were in Lower and 91 in Upper Burma. The number of pupils under instruction at the Insein School rose from 40 at the end of March 1922 to 45. There were six students at the Veterinary School, Taunggyi. A total daily attendance of 4,855 out-patients was recorded at the Veterinary Hospital, Insein, cattle being in the majority, and 270 in-patients were admitted ; 6,220 slides were examined in the laboratory.

Cattle Disease.

88. A serious outbreak of rinderpest in Amherst District in February 1922 caused 4,225 deaths in two townships ; outbreaks were also reported from Toungoo, Mergui, Salween and Thatôn Districts. Outbreaks of anthrax took place in Mergui, Myaungmya and Insein Districts, the returns of deaths being considered unreliable as anthrax, blackwater and hæmorrhagic septicæmia are practically indistinguishable except by microscopical examination. Foot-and-mouth disease was general in Irrawaddy Division and in parts of Pegu and Tenasserim Divisions, Myaungmya reporting 437 deaths. In Upper Burma Upper Chindwin reported 9,166 deaths from rinderpest, principally buffaloes, seriously affecting agricultural operations. Inoculation was carried on extensively. The Southern Shan States were practically free from disease, but 157 deaths from all causes (93 being rinderpest) were reported in the Northern Shan States. In a total of 270 villages 23,793 cattle were inoculated (a decrease of 4,587 from 1921-22) of which 600 died. The experiment of sending a Deputy Myoôk to accompany the inoculation parties and reassure the villagers succeeded in Upper Chindwin but failed in Amherst on personal grounds. Inhabitants of districts with previous experience of inoculation often ask

for serum injections during outbreaks. Segregation rules are being more understood and followed but there is still a great deal of educational work to be done. The three veterinary dispensaries at Prome, Myingyan and Pakôkku worked throughout the year with satisfactory results and a fourth was opened at Pegu towards the close of the year. The permissive registration of causes of cattle deaths is unsatisfactory and the results indicate a desire to avoid the inconvenience of the rules and restrictions for the more serious diseases. Out of 161 *thugyis* and others examined in the "Manual of the More Deadly Forms of Cattle Disease," eleven obtained 80 per cent., thirty-three 65 per cent., sixty-six 45 per cent. and fifty-one failed.

The cost of the department was Rs. 6,96,769 (of which all save Rs. 2,371 came from provincial and local funds), being an increase of Rs. 1,29,103 over 1921-22.

Stock.

89. The number of mature bulls and bullocks rose from 2,408,279 to 2,434,074 and of cows from 1,318,384 to 1,337,045. Buffaloes fell from 782,878 to 778,612. Horses and ponies increased slightly, but the number of mules again fell. Sheep and goats were reported in increased numbers, and the previous year's fall in the number of pigs was changed into an increase. The number of ploughs and carts increased. Magwe and other districts reported decreased stock owing to sales on account of a bad season. The charge of breeding operations was transferred from the Civil Veterinary Department to the Department of Agriculture.

Agricultural Loans.

90. Apart from loans to co-operative societies the amount advanced under the Agricultural Loans Act, 1884, was Rs. 15·21 lakhs compared with Rs. 18·78 lakhs in the previous year. Outstanding loans at the beginning of the year were Rs. 37·16 lakhs making a total advance of Rs. 52·37 lakhs. The amount falling due for collection within the year was Rs. 30·86 lakhs but collections only amounted to Rs. 19·64 lakhs ; a small sum was remitted and payment of Rs. 3·58 lakhs was suspended, leaving Rs. 7·93 lakhs overdue at the end of the year. Advances of over or near a lakh were taken in Akyab, Prome, Shwebo, Meiktila, Yamèthin, Myingyan and Magwe. In Upper Burma the loans are valuable and popular, but the amount advanced in Lower Burma is too small in many cases and the mortgage to Government hinders further borrowing. Recoveries were fair on the whole, and though large outstandings are shown in Prome, Amherst and Shwebo, much of the money due was collected soon after the close of the year. Poverty of the borrowers caused poor recoveries in Arakan, notably Kyaukpyu, while lax administration caused the outstandings to be large in Amherst, Ma-ubin, Kyauksè and Bhamo. A succession of poor seasons in the dry zone also affected recoveries, as did the heavy floods in Pegu. Minor frauds were reported from Pegu and Thayetmyo and irregularities or laxity of officials from Bhamo and Kyaukpyu. In the latter district a clerk was convicted of misappropriation.

Advances under the Land Improvement Loans Act were made in 12 districts, totalling Rs. ·61 lakh against Rs. ·26 lakh. These loans are not popular.

The interest received, which is now a provincial credit, amounted to Rs. 3·57 lakhs, the rate of interest charged to cultivators being unchanged at 6¼ per cent.

Protection from Floods.

91. The area protected from floods in Lower Burma by embankments, which are under the charge of the Irrigation Branch of the Public Works Department, fell slightly from 871,866 acres to 864,959 acres. There were no serious floods during the year and no breaches, but a number of slips due to prolonged rainfall lasting 20 days on end took place, the most serious being at miles 22/4 to 23/0 of the Ma-ubin north embankment on the retirement built in 1921. This slip extending over 600 feet long reduced the height of the embankment by about 18 inches ; it was dealt with satisfactorily. On the Ngawun embankment the villagers turned out of their own accord to close leaks and were rewarded for their trouble. Dangerous places on the Yandoon Island embankment were strengthened, as was also the Yenwe River embankment, where a high flood on 9th July 1922 caused a breach ; the breach in the bund which consisted of sand widened to 3,100 feet and much work was done in raising low portions, constructing six retirements, closing the breach, pitching the banks and protecting the embankment at a cost of Rs. 0·69 lakh. The extension of the Sittang embankment was begun but was hindered by an outbreak of cholera, and a record flood which breached the section between miles 46 and 47 in that place : the breaches aggregated a total width of 600 feet and were closed before the end of the year. Burmese labour which was employed for the first time on a large scale on this embankment proved quite satisfactory. The gross receipts from areas protected by embankments amounted to Rs. 28·59 lakhs against Rs. 26·59 lakhs in 1921-22.

Weather and Crops.

Character of the Season.

92. The monsoon broke about the usual date or a little later and the earliest rains were slightly below normal but at the planting season in Lower Burma the rains were greatly in excess while deficient rain in June and July in Upper Burma caused failure of the main crop, early sesamum. Later rains in Lower Burma were poor and capricious while destructive cyclones in Arakan and rains just before harvest reduced the yield, especially on replanted lands. In Upper Burma, however, the late rains were generally good, rice and other late crops being successful though cotton was badly damaged. Thus the lower part of the province contrasted unfavourably with 1921-22 and the dry zone in Upper Burma had another lean year compensated for in many ways by good rice and island crops. Both parts of the province suffered from crop disease and insects. Early subsidence of the rivers was generally favourable to crops on inundated land. The matured area increased, despite the failure of rice in Lower and sesamum in Upper Burma.

Outturn and Prices.

93. The final forecast of the paddy harvest estimated the crops at 6,875,000 tons, but district reports of actual outturn gave 6,243,756 tons, which was considered conservative, although the harvest was certainly below normal. The figures include 175,000 tons for the Shan States and other areas not previously included. The outturn of cleaned cotton was estimated at 5,065 tons, an increase of 48 tons over 1921-22. The outturn of sesamum was much below the previous year : the groundnut crop was below the first estimate, owing to decreased yield per acre, and exports of nut and

oil fell, but export of cake rose by 10,000 tons to 41,728 tons. Export of rubber rose by 541 tons to 2,427 tons.

During the early part of 1922 prices of paddy rose from Rs. 160—165 in early January to Rs. 190 at the end of January and Rs. 225 in May falling to Rs. 195 in September. Active demand from Java and the Straits made the October price Rs. 195—200 (boat) and Rs. 190 (rail) and continued in November, but the demand then ceased and at the end of the year the price was Rs. 160. Greater storing up-country from the opening of the season secured a better price to the cultivator, but as foreign markets were weak defeated the speculators' hopes, as the price did not follow the usual course of rising as the season advanced. The cultivators' position was strengthened, and also probably the home consumers', but if the unusual late eastern demand had not come to relieve the situation and remove part of a large surplus, the effect on the 1922 crop price might have been serious.

With prospects of a smaller paddy crop and recollections of previous prices, cultivators were not easily tempted to sell at the opening of the season, and the early January 1923 price, Rs. 160—165, soon rose to Rs. 173—180 by the end of the month : freer supplies reduced the price in February to Rs. 168—173, but it rose again in March to Rs. 185—189 falling thereafter to the end of the season, until at the end of June it was steady at Rs. 160 (rail) and Rs. 171—173 (boat). Exports to America and Europe rose, but to the Far East, India and elsewhere they declined, and at the end of June total exports from Rangoon were only slightly over 1,000,000 tons or considerably below the usual figures for the period. The demand was generally weak, and the monsoon prospects in India were good, so that speculators and those who advised holding paddy for high prices were disappointed although in view of the past course of prices it is probable that given a normal demand for rice which the post-war conditions appear to deny their speculation would usually be justified. Prices and supplies were both below 1921-22.

Good prices were obtained except for paddy, beans and gram, and the retail prices of rice were below those of the previous year. The lower price of paddy reacted on the general course of trade : money was tight and the Chetties were unwilling to make advances, being themselves in some cases unable to obtain advances from banks. Paddy and rice moved in greater volume from Upper to Lower Burma. The rainfall was slightly above normal.

Co-operation.

Administrative and General.

94. There was no administrative change of importance in the Co-operative Societies Department. The intended incorporation of the appointments of Assistant and Junior Assistant Registrars in the Burma and Subordinate Civil Services respectively was not carried out within the year under report. There was no territorial extension of the sphere of the department's influence ; and the percentage of increase in the number of both societies and members was the lowest yet recorded. There were 5,468 societies of all kinds, against 5,279 in 1921-22, while the total membership rose from 143,782 to 151,130. The co-operative movement's loss in popularity, as compared with previous years, was explained in part by the growth in certain districts of unregistered saving societies, whose educative work in promoting thrift among the rural population will no doubt accrue to the ultimate benefit of the

co-operative movement. There was a considerable advance in the linking of societies into larger groups. Unions increased from 532 to 559. There was no change in the law governing the working of co-perative institutions.

Unions and Central Banks.

95. The work of guaranteeing and supervising unions continued to improve; and district associations showed increasing vitality and in some cases took over control of audit within their areas. Two new central banks were established during the year, bringing the number up to 14. Improvement was reported in the management of these banks. The co-operative banking system, however, still suffers from a paucity of deposit collecting agencies; and two township central banks were formed as a result of the study of small central banks in the Punjab, in the hope that they would be more efficient than district banks in collecting deposits. A tendency in urban banks to neglect local deposits in the expectation of getting ample loans from the Urban Central Bank was defeated by the absence of increase in the latter's deposits. The Provincial Bank's deposits increased, but did not keep pace with the requirements of its business. A satisfactory feature, from a true co-operative standpoint, was an increase of deposits by Burmans in proportion to deposits by Europeans. The latter however still formed over 80 per cent. of the total.

Agricultural Credit Societies.

96. The increase in the number of agricultural credit societies was only 3·4 per cent. against 8·6 per cent. in 1921-22, the lowest previous figure. The average of loans per member rose from Rs. 158 to Rs. 174. A generally poor harvest, with low prices for paddy and other produce, hampered repayments, particularly by primary societies affiliated to the Provincial Bank. Complaints of the inadequacy of 'bank money' were again common, and certain societies which understood co-operation to mean only cheap credit voluntarily terminated their existence. On the other hand there were indications that shortage of 'bank money' stimulated the collection of local deposits in some cases, and so tended to remove the chief defect of the system of finance through the provincial and central banks.

Other Societies.

97. There was little progress by co-operative town banks and similar urban credit societies, either in number of societies, number of members or amount of capital. The activities of some energetic leaders were diverted into political channels. Salary earners' credit societies continued to make progress especially among Indians of the middle class in Rangoon. These societies were reported to be generally well managed. Co-operative stores remained few in number. One which was started with European membership in 1921 failed and was liquidated towards the end of the year with the total loss of its share capital. Cattle insurance societies showed some progress after a long period of stagnation.

Colonization Areas.

98. A separate Colonization Department was formed on 1st January 1923, which took over all schemes formerly dealt with by the Co-operative Department. Sixteen new tenancy societies with an average membership of 25 were settled during the year on 23,000 acres in the Yitkangyi, Singyun and Alangôn Reserves of the Sittang area, making 81 societies in

that colony with a total allotted area of 120,000 acres. Loans outstanding amount to Rs. 14·27 lakhs, loans of Rs. 5·45 lakhs having been given in the year of report. No societies were dissolved, but one affected by internal dissension was nearing dissolution : otherwise repayments were normal. The limit of profitable cultivation on the Yandoon Island had already been reached, and some of the land is of more than doubtful quality. Loans outstanding in that area amounted to Rs. 2·24 lakhs, and the condition of some societies caused anxiety. After a thorough examination of the Pyuntaza plain area, on which no work had previously been done, 7,000 acres were allotted during 1922-23 to seven societies who received Rs. 0·78 lakh in loans. No new work was done in the Myitkyina area, where owing to a bad season three societies were being liquidated and others amalgamated with stronger institutions. Loans outstanding amounted to Rs. 3·15 lakhs ; repayments were moderate and a thorough overhauling of the societies was recognised as desirable.

Horticulture.

Agri-Horticultural Societies.

99. The transfer of the Agri-Horticultural Society from the old site to one further north was completed in 1922, all the work of the dismantling and re-erection of buildings, laying of water mains, making of roads and transfer of the plant collection being carried out by the Development Trust with very little effect on the work of the Society. The new site has been laid out on improved lines, and facilities to the members of the Society and the public have been increased. Certain mature plants and palms had to be abandoned and the new site will not be so productive for some years as the old, which had benefited by regular cultivation and manuring. The collection of plants will be as varied as possible, especially of the Burmese flora, so as to be of use to students of botany at the University. The new office building has a council chamber on the first floor and water tanks above to supply the entire area by gravitation. The lay-out of the new site affords a striking view of the Shwe Dagon Pagoda from the office, and the lake in the centre is surrounded by "specialist" gardens. The vacant post of Superintendent was filled by the appointment of Mr. Cooper of the Botanic Gardens, Maymyo. The membership of the Society at the end of 1922 was 240. The loss incurred during the year was Rs. 2,242 compared with a profit in the two preceding years, but it is hoped that the reorganisation of staff and the re-arrangement of plants and trees on the new site will soon improve the Society's revenue. The School Gardens Flower and Vegetable Show was held in January 1922, and the revival of the annual show, as well as the establishment of a branch garden in the hills where foreign plants could be acclimatized and where cut flowers and acclimatized seed could be supplied to Rangoon, is under consideration. The new hall and offices were opened on 1st May 1923.

Forests.

Forest Reserves, Forest Settlement, Demarcation, Survey and Working Plans.

100. The total area of reserved forests at the end of the year 1922-23 was 27,416 square miles, against 30,086 square miles at the end of 1921-22, while the area of unclassed forests at the end of the year was estimated at 92,525 square miles. Variations in both cases were due to the exclusion of the forests in the Shan

States Federation, to reservation, disafforestation and recomputation. The settlement of 126 square miles of reserved forests was completed during the year ; 117 square miles were taken in hand, and altogether 2,833 square miles were under settlement ; demarcation of 79 miles of exterior boundaries was carried out at a cost of Rs. 1,956 ; repairs to 3,272 miles cost Rs. 30,375 ; and 265 miles of new boundary awaited demarcation at the end of the year. The Forest Survey Party surveyed during the year 528 square miles of reserved and 55 square miles of unclassed forests on the 2-inch scale. In addition to this the topographical party surveyed in the course of its work 3 square miles of reserved and 7 square miles of proposed reserved forests on the 4-inch scale and 55 square miles of reserved forests on the 2-inch scale. This party also revised and brought up-to-date the information on areas formerly surveyed as unclassed forest and now included in certain reserves in the Ataran Forest Division. There were three special working plan parties at work during the year, which were occupied with the completion of the field work of the revision of existing plans and the preparation of new plans started in the previous year in the Zigôn and South Toungoo Forest Divisions ; with the revision of existing plans for 325 square miles and preparation of new plans for 141 square miles in the Prome Division, and with the preparation of new plans for 101 square miles in the Ataran Division, 52 square miles in the Bhamo and 117 square miles in the Shwegu Forest Divisions. Plans for 93 square miles prepared by the Divisional Officers, Ataran and Tharrawaddy Divisions, were sanctioned during the year and for 549 square miles prepared by the Divisional Forest Officers, North Toungoo and Katha Divisions, were sanctioned after the close of the year.

Protection of Forests.

101. During the year 6,895 offences were detected against an average of 5,796 for three previous years. The increase is attributed to better supervision. Twelve of the offences were injury to forest by fire ; 4,947 unauthorised fellings and removals : 199 unauthorised grazing ; and 1,737 other offences. Eight hundred and fifty-four cases involving 1,470 persons were taken to court. Convictions were obtained in 772 cases implicating 1,261 persons. Eight-two cases implicating 209 persons were acquitted. The percentage of conviction is 90·4 as compared with 86·0 last year. Fire protection in natural forests has been abandoned almost everywhere. Protection is now, in practice, limited to young plantations and areas under regeneration. The total area under protection during the year was 77,971 acres. Failures amounted to 3,642 acres. The percentage of success was 95·3. Of the reserved forests 76·8 per cent. were closed to grazing entirely ; 0·2 per cent. for the whole year, and 0·6 per cent. for part of the year were open to all animals ; 6·5 per cent. for the whole year and 15·9 for part of the year were open to all animals except browsers.

Improvement of Forests.

102. The total expenditure on forest roads and buildings during the year amounted to Rs. 7,53,318. Lessees also spent Rs. 1,13,821 on roads to supplement their floating operations. Two hundred and six miles of cart roads and 237 miles of paths were newly constructed at a total cost of Rs. 3,33,916. Repairs to roads and paths cost Rs. 1,11,611. Rupees 2,08,729 was spent on the construction of new buildings and Rs. 99,062 on repairs to buildings. The expenditure incurred on roads is however still low and

much more can be spent with a view to developing trade in timber, especially hardwoods. A large number of houses are also required, especially for Forest Officers at headquarters. Six thousand one hundred and sixty acres of new plantations were created during the year, the average cost per acre being Rs. 8·6.

Exploitation of Timber.

103. The outturn of teak by lessees during the year was 344,724 tons against 454,011 last year. The amount extracted by Government and licensees was 124,640 tons as against 143,637 tons last year. The quantity of reserved wood extracted was 29,889 tons more than that of the previous year whilst the quantity of unreserved wood and fuel was considerably less. Departmental extraction of teak was mainly in the Myitmaka Extraction Division. During the year the outturn from this division was 77,055 logs as against 81,978 logs in the previous year.

Finance.

104. The financial results of forest administration are shown in paragraph 154 of this Report.

Mines and Quarries.

The Indian Mines Act.

105. The mines to which the Indian Mines Act apply diminished in number from 60 in 1921 to 43 in 1922, being situated in Tavoy (27), Mergui (16), Northern Shan States (5), Katha (3), Mandalay (1) and Southern Shan States (1). No work was done at the coal mine in Shwebo District which was worked experimentally in 1921 for a few months. The mines in Tavoy decreased by 11, following the continued depression in the tin and wolfram industry, but the output of wolfram increased slightly owing to the Local Government's scheme of aid to mine owners. The mines in Mergui rose from 11 to 16 as more mines came under the Act, having attained a depth greater than 20 feet. One of the ruby mines in the Katha District was not worked by the Burma Ruby Mines Company, Limited. One new iron ore mine belonging to the Burma Corporation, Limited, was opened in December 1922 at Namphat and the Nawng-thakaw mine came under the Indian Mines Act for the first time. Limestone extracted by that company from the Hsaikhao quarry for use as flux in smelting rose from 4,967 tons in 1921 to 8,785 tons. In Tavoy District the Deputy Commissioner, the Civil Surgeon and the Junior Inspector of Mines visited the most important mines, the Deputy Commissioner visiting some of the less important. The Deputy Commissioner, Mergui, visited most of the mines in that district, and the Assistant Inspector of Mines visited two. The Northern Shan States mines were inspected, but not those in the Southern Shan States, Katha and Mandalay Districts. There are no boards under section 9 of the Act, but the Tavoy Mining Advisory Board appointed in 1917 met once and the Tavoy Chamber of Mines worked as usual throughout the year. The general health of employees at the mines was good : no outbreaks of epidemic diseases occurred, and the one case of plague, reported at Bawdwin in October 1922, resulted in the recovery of the patient. Housing and sanitary conditions are satisfactory. Wages paid by the Burma Corporation and reported to be adequate average Rs. 8 to Rs. 13 per week for Burmese coolies and Rs. 7 to Rs. 10 for Chinese. The Hsaikhao quarry is worked on contract. At the old mines of the Burma Ruby Mines

Company, Limited, wages are Rs. 6 per week under ground and Rs. 8 per week surface : at the new mine Rs. 9-6-0 per week. Tribute rates for wolfram in Tavoy were unchanged, but the rate for tin in large mines rose from annas 12 to Re. 1 per viss. Footage rates were paid at Hermyingyi and a few other mines. Many Chinese coolies left Tavoy for the Mergui tin mines where labour was therefore ample, the system of working being on tribute at previous rates. Food prices were high in Tavoy. The relationship between employees and their labour force was good. No children were employed in the Shan States, and only 17 women against 39 in 1921. Four children and 31 women were employed in Mergui : and in Tavoy 21 women underground against 14, and 14 surface against 36. Four children were employed underground as in 1921. There were 46 serious accidents (45 in 1921) involving the deaths of 14 persons (21 in 1921) and injuries to 32 (33 in 1921). There were no prosecutions under the Act, but three persons were charged in Tavoy under the Burma Explosives Act and two were convicted. The application of the rules under section 20 of the new Mines Act to mines other than coal in the Northern Shan States was deferred, and a new Indian Mines Act received the assent of the Governor-General in Council on the 23rd February 1923.

The Chief Medical Officer, Burma Corporation, Limited, at Namtu, Northern Shan States, has supplied a statement on the health and sanitary condition at the mines. The average number of labourers employed in 1922 was 10,438, but in January 1923 it was 14,365 of whom 131 were Europeans, 571 clerks, professional men and supervisors, 886 artizans, 4,517 skilled labour and 8,260 coolies. This staff is engaged in mining underground, working in the smelter, on the railway, on providing timber and in the iron ore mines. Bawdwin gets its water from a stream, five miles distant from possible sources of human contamination ; it is soft, well suited for cooking and washing, and its condition as to risk of contamination is periodically investigated. Namtu gets its water from surface springs ; it is hard and contains more magnesium sulphate than is desirable, so a new source has been obtained. A hospital capable of accommodating 84 patients exists at Namtu with the chief and four assistant medical officers in attendance : there are medical officers at three other spots and (during the dry months) at a fourth. A trolly ambulance runs on the mines railway and Namtu has a Ford ambulance. For dealing with epidemics a temporary hospital, capable of rapid enlargement, is maintained five miles from Namtu. Sanitary inspectors (two at Namtu and one at Bawdwin) and a large staff of sweepers are maintained. No case of enteric fever was reported in 1922. Thirteen cases with one death of relapsing fever, all among immigrant Chinese from Yünnan, were dealt with : 68 cases with 19 deaths of beriberi, also confined to Chinese labourers, who it was found were fed solely on polished rice, were recorded : also 15 cases of epidemic dropsy. These two being food diseases, steps were taken to secure a more varied diet. Malaria is the chief prevalent disease, 16,413 cases with 27 deaths being treated as out-patients and 1,274 cases with 73 deaths as in-patients at the various hospitals. There were no deaths among the Europeans of whom 22 were admitted to hospital and others were treated in their own quarters. Educational propaganda was carried on, swamps were drained, mosquito brigades organised, and a saving of over 200 working days among the European population as compared with 1921 followed this activity, but malaria prevention is an individual as well as a communal problem and the large ignorant population, both indigenous and

immigrant, makes progress slow. Four cases of plague with two deaths were recorded, stringent measures of infectious rat and mice isolation and disinfection and inoculation of contacts being enforced. The number of cases of lead colic treated fell from 330 to 97 and the graver forms of plumbism were absent. There were no deaths. All the lead colic cases were of comparatively slight nature. A new flue and bag house with other alterations to alleviate the dust nuisance were completed at a cost of Rs. 15 lakhs and this with improving washing facilities inside the smelter should reduce the cases under this heading. The total number of patients at Namtu and Bawdwin rose from 36,512 in 1921 to 37,751 in 1922 and at the four minor stations from 4,038 to 6,041. Twenty-one prosecutions for adulterated milk and selling food unfit for human consumption resulted in convictions in all cases. No cases of miner's phthisis were recorded ; two cases of ankylostomiasis were detected.

At Hermyingyi and Kanbauk, both in Tavoy District, 1,500 and 300 men are employed ; all the other Tenasserim mines are worked by small staffs. Owing to the collapse in wolfram, housing accommodation is indifferent, there being few raised floors. Water supply, except at Hermyingyi, is from wells and streams. There is a dispensary at Hermyingyi under a fully qualified medical man and another at Kanbauk under a compounder. Malarial fever is the prevailing feature, all the mines being surrounded by jungle. No cases of beri-beri or scurvy were reported, and there is little or no overcrowding. Latrines are sometimes provided and the night-soil is incinerated at Hermyingyi. Rice is kept in stock ; other articles of diet are obtained locally.

New Concessions.

106. During the calendar year 1922 new applications for prospecting licenses numbered 322, of which 144 were granted, 75 were refused and 103 were withdrawn compared with 378, 163, 95 and 120 in 1921. Applications for renewals of prospecting licenses numbered 147 of which 105 were granted, 30 refused and 12 withdrawn, compared with 144, 103, 32 and 9 in 1921. Applications for leases numbered 17, of which 9 were granted, 2 refused and 6 withdrawn ; 5 were granted for all minerals except oil, 1 for oil, 1 for coal and 2 for wolfram and tin. On 31st March 1923 there were 171 mining leases and 250 prospecting licenses in existence against 160 and 253 in 1922.

Petroleum.

107. Production continued in Akyab, Kyaukpyu, Magwe (Yenangyaung and Singu), Minbu, Pakôkku, Thayetmyo and Upper Chindwin. The production in Akyab and Kyaukpyu only totalled 25,097 gallons. The output in Magwe fell by 16,738,399 gallons from 288,587,890 to 271,849,491, both Singu and Yenangyaung showing decreases, the former from less work, the latter from gradual exhaustion of the field. There were increases in Minbu (233,885 gallons), Upper Chindwin (28,132) and Thayetmyo (2,253,463) as the result of new wells. Pakôkku fell from 2,510,533 to 2,413,416. The total provincial output was 281,759,169, a decrease of 14,332,888 gallons. The average number of persons employed fell from 15,665 to 15,135.

Wolfram.

108. The output of tungsten ore, which has again been affected by continued trade depression, rose slightly from 979 to 1,012 tons extracted wholly in Tavoy as a constituent of mixed concentrates. A scheme of Government aid to

mine owners in respect of mixed tin and wolfram concentrates kept the industry going, but the average number of persons employed fell from 2,469 to 2,280.

Rubies, Sapphires and Spinels.

109. Katha District again furnished the total output of rubies, sapphires and spinels, which increased from 193,915 carats valued at Rs. 7·52 lakhs to 231,160 carats valued at Rs. 7·27 lakhs. An exceptionally valuable ruby of nearly 23 carats was discovered, of such rare size and quality that it is expected to fetch several thousand pounds. The local and Indian market was dull and depressed owing to the import of German synthetic gems but London sales improved. The number of persons employed rose from 1,242 to 1,254.

Lead and Silver Ore.

110. The Bawdwin mine of the Burma Corporation, Limited, produced 172,017 tons crude ore as compared with 144,089 tons in 1921, following further discoveries of high grade ore. Lead extracted rose from 33,717 tons valued at Rs. 1,17·47 lakhs to 39,214 tons valued at Rs. 1,41·71 lakhs, and silver from 3,555,021 oz. (valued at Rs. 88·21 lakhs) to 4,205,584 oz. valued at Rs. 1,00·39 lakhs. The number of workers increased from 1,806 to 2,004 of whom 184 were engaged in the Southern Shan States on the production of galena, 48·875 tons being produced valued at Rs. 5,625 as compared with 138·112 tons in 1921 : some of the prospecting licenses expired and the mines were not worked. The total silver output was nearly double that of 1919 and lead more than double.

Other Minerals.

Block tin production in Mergui District rose from 171·25 tons to 217·87 tons as miners realised speedy sale. The output of tin ore rose from 1,972·56 tons to 2,278·46 tons of which 1,860·57 tons came from Tavoy, tin replacing wolfram as the chief mineral sought. Amherst's production fell to 11·77 tons and Thatôn and the Southern Shan States produced no tin ; Mawchi mines in Karenni remained closed during the year. Royalty was paid on 3½ cwts. of amber as against 26½ cwts. in 1921, but much was sent direct to Assam from the mines without royalty. Jadeite in Myitkyina District more than doubled in quantity extracted (7,724·7 cwts. against 3,815 cwts. in 1921), but the value per cwt. declined, larger stones being of inferior quality ; and the total value was Rs. 8·69 lakhs against Rs. 7·02 lakhs. Experimental work in the Southern Shan States yielded 172 tons of coal against 500 from the same source in 1921 : nothing was done at the Khodaung mine in Shwebo District. Shortage of water affected gold mining by native methods in Katha and Upper Chindwin, and only 24 oz. were won as against 42 in 1921. The Pauktaw iron ore mine in Mandalay was not worked in 1922 and the output from the Northern Shan States mines, only two being worked as against three in 1921, yielded 27,680 tons iron ore, all taken by the Burma Corporation, Limited : 364 persons were employed against 770 in 1921 when 49,831 tons in all were extracted. The steatite mines in Pakôkku Hill Tracts yielded 61 cwts. against 28 in 1921, the mines being open longer.

Quarry Stones and Clay.

111. The output of building materials and road metal, the figures for which are only approximately correct, fell from 1,363,384 tons in 1921 to 850,904 tons which is less than half the 1920 output : the cause of the continued decline is

obscure. Clay for pottery fell from 29,289 tons to 21,048, of which Sandoway (12,823) and Bassein (3,128) returned nearly 76 per cent. Soap sand rose by 342 tons to 3,975.

Revenue from Mines and Quarries.

112. Government fees, rents and royalties on petroleum, rubies, jade and amber rose by Rs. 2·44 lakhs to a total of Rs. 38·51 lakhs, the increase being due to Rs. 1·98 lakhs in Magwe, Rs. 0·24 lakh in Thayetmyo and Rs. 0·28 lakh in the Upper Chindwin. The increase in Magwe is due to the saving in oil which has resulted from the use of electricity and gas on the field. In Thayetmyo there was considerable activity in prospecting for oil and in the Upper Chindwin the increase is due to the Pantha Refinery. In Katha the revenue receipts from ruby mining increased slightly after last year's heavy fall.

The fees, rents and royalties on other minerals again fell by Rs. 0·20 lakh and now stand at Rs. 0·80 lakh compared with Rs. 4·40 lakhs in 1918-19. The continued depression of the mining industry especially in Tavoy is the explanation.

Manufactures.

Principal Industries.

113. Apart from agriculture, which is and is likely to remain the chief occupation of the population, the chief industries are rice-milling, oil raising and refining, timber extraction and conversion, mining and the transport activities connected with the handling of the earth's products. No new large industry was started during the year, and the number of persons employed in factories registered under the Indian Factories Act fell slightly. Weaving of silk and cotton (in some cases interweaving of the two) is the most diffused of the smaller industries, which also include pottery, lacquer work, carving of ivory and wood, umbrella, slipper and mat making and cigar rolling. The development of these smaller industries is referred to in paragraph 192.

Factories.

114. The number of factories on the register increased by 68, from 729 in 1921 to 797 in 1922. Rice-mills increased from 429 to 482 and the number of small mills is regarded as producing cut-throat competition, as there are more than sufficient to cope with the crop and many work for only a few days a week, even in the busy season; other industries than rice are badly needed in Lower Burma. The number of persons employed fell from 92,585 to 88,799; all the principal milling centres showing decreases, and the number employed by small mills, though more than in 1921, did not make up the deficit. Employés in rice-mills fell by 4,000, those engaged in engineering and transport by 1,473, in chemical works by 213 and in Government and local fund factories by 360, but employés in minerals and metal works rose by 1,525, in saw mills by 524 and printing presses by 118. Fourteen factories remained closed during the year against 18 in 1921 and 24 in 1920. The number of women employed rose to 8,126 from 7,713 in 1921, and that of children fell to 879 from 1,117 in 1921. Of the women 1,603 or nearly 20 per cent. were employed in Myingyan District and 1,434 or 17 per cent. in Rangoon Town, mainly in the boiled paddy business. The figures for children are being further investigated as an increase rather than a decrease

was expected, and it is believed that many children who are employed in picking over cotton in Myingyan were not reported. Hitherto it has been the custom for this work to be done by families whose members come and go as they like : henceforth night work will be prohibited in ginning factories and all children employed in picking over cotton in the compounds must be certified and definite hours of work fixed for women and children. The suggestion that these amendments of the Factories Act may lead to the replacement of Burmese by Indian labour will be closely investigated so that the necessary steps may be taken to have the Act adapted to provincial conditions. In all factories holidays are granted on both Sundays and week days. The standard of fencing of machinery is being gradually improved and workmen have been urged to avoid loose clothing when working among machinery : great improvement is recorded in provision of proper oiling platforms and ladders. There were 26 fatal accidents against 25 in 1921 and 563 accidents in all, against 610 in 1921. Prosecutions, which were limited by the small staff, were undertaken in eight cases, all of which resulted in conviction and fine. The general health of operatives reflected that of the general public, but plague is extremely rare in rice-mills where rats abound. Alterations in rates of pay were slight, the average of cooly labour in rice-mills being Rs. 25—35 per mensem, semi-skilled labour (mill hands) Rs. 25—70 and skilled operators, engine-drivers Rs. 65—85 and fitters and turners Rs. 55—100. As there is no statutory obligation on a mill-owner to provide housing accommodation for his labour force, the standard of housing varies greatly but the municipal authorities are informed when coolie lines within their limits are found unsatisfactory : elsewhere the manager has his attention called to their condition. The paddy-boiling nuisance is being diminished by the utilisation of Mr. Charlton's process whereby the work can be carried on without the offensive smell. Efforts are being continued to diminish the dust nuisance in rice-mills. The staff of the Factories Department will henceforth be a Chief Inspector and two Inspectors, with Assistant Inspectors to be chosen locally. A Labour Officer under the Development Commissioner will deal with wages and general conditions of labour. The number of inspections made in 1922 fell from 425 to 305 owing to the staff being only one person for ten months of the year.

Trade.

Maritime Trade : Total Value and Revenue.

115. The value of the sea-borne trade of the whole Province of Burma in 1922-23 with foreign countries and Indian ports and between provincial ports was Rs. 104·15 crores, an increase of nearly Rs. 10 lakhs over the previous record of 1921-22. A decrease of Rs. 6,50 lakhs in the total trade with Indian ports was offset by an increase of trade with foreign ports of Rs. 7,29 lakhs. The aggregate including treasure and Government stores was Rs. 107·14 crores, an increase of Rs. 17 lakhs compared with 1921-22, but Rs. 48 lakhs below the record year of 1920-21. The average index number of prices of certain representative articles in Rangoon's foreign trade fell in the case of imports from 288·8 in 1921-22 to 261·9 and in the case of exports from 210·5 to 198·6. The bulk tonnage of the more important articles fell in the case of imports from 988,639 tons in 1921-22 to 806,113 but rose in the case of exports from 2,889,762 tons in 1921-22 to 3,024,728 tons. The balance of foreign trade in favour of Burma reached a new record of Rs. 19·48

crores against Rs. 13·68 in 1921-22, the balance of trade against India being Rs. 9·22 crores. The year was quiet and devoid of very striking features. With the removal of control and cessation of the abnormal Indian demand, rice exports to foreign ports increased ; trade in piece-goods recovered slightly after the 1921-22 slump. Exchange was fairly steady and prices fell appreciably in most lines, but trade conditions generally did not vary much from those of 1921-22.

Imports from foreign ports amounted to Rs. 20·02 crores and exports to foreign ports to Rs. 39·75 crores, a total of Rs. 59·78 crores compared with Rs. 52·79 crores in 1921-22. Imports from Indian ports amounted to Rs. 16·06 crores and exports to Indian ports to Rs. 24·27 crores, a total of Rs. 40·32 crores compared with Rs. 46·73 crores in 1921-22.

Rangoon had 89·94 per cent. of the foreign trade, 85·40 per cent. of the Indian coasting and 41·81 per cent of the provincial coasting trade, the capital's share of the total trade falling to 86·31 per cent. as compared with 88·16 per cent. in 1921-22. All the minor ports showed increases except Tavoy, Mergui and Kyaukpyu. Following the increase in March 1922 of general and "luxury" rates of duty, the net customs duty rose from Rs. 3,08 lakhs to Rs. 4,25 lakhs. Tobacco constituted Rs. 12·60 lakhs of the increase and cotton piece-goods Rs. 20·76 lakhs, but despite the doubling of the rate of duty on matches, the increase was only Rs. 4·26 lakhs owing to imports by land frontiers. The new special rate on certain iron and steel goods of 10 per cent. brought in Rs. 10 lakhs additional : cotton goods excluded from the 11 per cent. rate Rs. 5·53 lakhs additional ; sugar Rs. 8·30 lakhs and other provisions Rs. 7·32 lakhs additional. Revenue on imported coal fell from Rs. 1·06 lakhs to Rs. 0·53 lakhs. The export duty on rice rose from Rs. 58·61 lakhs to Rs. 72·41 lakhs as a result of greater export to non-Indian ports. Import duty on salt rose from Rs. 20·29 lakhs to Rs. 21·26 lakhs. Customs revenue at the minor ports rose from Rs. 13·50 lakhs to Rs. 19·17 lakhs principally in export duty on rice.

Rangoon Trade : Total figures.

116. The comparative importance of the principal articles imported from foreign countries into Rangoon (the total of which fell from Rs. 20·01 crores in 1921-22 to Rs. 19·92 crores) is as follows :—Cotton manufactures Rs. 5,78 lakhs (increase of Rs. 1,57 lakhs), metals Rs. 2,28 lakhs (decrease Rs. 75 lakhs), machinery and millwork Rs. 1,60 lakhs (decrease Rs. 102 lakhs), sugar Rs. 86 lakhs (decrease Rs. 12 lakhs), provisions Rs. 84 lakhs (increase Rs. 25 lakhs), silk Rs. 55 lakhs (increase Rs. 21 lakhs), hardware Rs. 68 lakhs (decrease Rs. 10 lakhs), coal Rs. 39 lakhs (decrease Rs. 45 lakhs), tobacco Rs. 38 lakhs (increase Rs. 13 lakhs), oils Rs. 36 lakhs (decrease Rs. 22 lakhs), manufactures of wool Rs. 35 lakhs (increase of Rs. 16 lakhs), railway plant and rolling stock Rs. 33 lakhs (decrease Rs. 31 lakhs), paper and paste board Rs. 33 lakhs (decrease Rs. 4 lakhs), salt Rs. 22 lakhs (increase Rs. 3 lakhs), matches Rs. 22 lakhs (decrease Rs. 9 lakhs), motor cars Rs. 21 lakhs (decrease Rs. 68,000) and "all other articles" Rs. 2,33 lakhs (increase Rs. 13 lakhs).

Rangoon Import Trade.

117. The comparative importance of principal articles imported into Rangoon from India (the total of which fell from Rs. 16,15 lakhs to Rs. 15,12 lakhs) was as follows : cotton twist and yarn Rs. 1,88 lakhs (decrease of Rs. 54 lakhs), cotton manufactures Rs. 1,73 lakhs (decrease of Rs. 83 lakhs), jute

manufactures Rs. 1,64 lakhs (increase of Rs. 11 lakhs), oils Rs. 1,18 lakhs (increase of Rs. 21 lakhs), grains and pulse Rs. 99 lakhs (decrease of Rs. 26 lakhs), coal Rs. 94 lakhs (decrease of Rs. 12 lakhs), spices Rs. 90 lakhs (increase of Rs. 25 lakhs), seeds Rs. 85 lakhs (increase of Rs. 49 lakhs), fruits and vegetables Rs. 63 lakhs (increase of Rs. 22 lakhs), fish Rs. 46 lakhs (decrease of Rs. 27 lakhs) and "all other articles" Rs. 180 lakhs (decrease of Rs. 32 lakhs). Foreign cotton manufactures have increased at the expense of Indian products. Coal (stocked largely in 1921-22 in view of high prices) fell off and silk, sugar and other provisions increased.

Cotton goods of all sorts imported into the Province the value of which had fallen from Rs. 13,21 lakhs in 1920-21 to Rs. 9,20 lakhs in 1921-22 rose slightly in the year of review to Rs. 9,40 lakhs, there being a distinct sign of revival for foreign piece-goods which rose from 56 million yards of piece-goods in 1920-21 to 86 million compared with 95 million in the year 1920-21, but Indian piece-goods fell from 48 million yards in 1921-22 to 30 million compared with 39 million in 1920-21. There were increases in all classes of piece-goods from the United Kingdom which sent 56 out of the 86 million yards compared with 37 millions in 1921-22. Japan was the principal of the "other countries" which supplied piece-goods. The Indian falling off was in all branches. The silk trade made up nearly half the loss of 1921-22 compared with 1920-21. Raw silk increased from Rs. 2·05 lakhs in value to Rs. 10·25 lakhs, but the bulk of this continues to arrive duty free by the overland route from China, 534,528 lbs. valued at Rs. 71·22 lakhs being recorded at the registration posts against 574,168 lbs. valued at Rs. 65·45 lakhs in 1921-22. The piece-goods silk trade of which Japan sent 94 per cent. out of the 3½ million yards (an increase of 8 million yards) increased in value from Rs. 27·87 lakhs to Rs. 41·75 lakhs. The quantity of imports from Hongkong and China rose from 119,926 yards valued at Rs. 3·38 lakhs to 133,712 yards valued at Rs. 5·49 lakhs. Wool, which fell in price, nearly doubled in value of imports.

In value metals and ores imported fell from Rs. 3,03 lakhs in 1921-22 to Rs. 2,28 lakhs although the weight rose from 57,763 tons to 64,833 tons, much lower prices prevailing. America's share of the metal trade was only Rs. 6·09 lakhs, while the United Kingdom's share rose from Rs. 1,32 lakhs to Rs. 1,55 lakhs and Belgium's from Rs. 16·58 lakhs to Rs. 28·55 lakhs. Imports of hardware from Germany and Japan increased at the expense of British and American products. The falling off in machinery and millwork were largely in electrical, sugar-mill, mining, paper making and mill working machinery. German machinery for rice mill rose from Rs. 10 to Rs. 20 lakhs, but imports from America fell from Rs. 82 to Rs. 22 lakhs. The United Kingdom's share of the trade was 72 per cent. against 64 per cent. in 1921-22. Of the imports of railway plant and rolling stock which fell heavily 80 per cent. were carriages and waggons. The number of motor cars imported was about the same as the previous year, and the value fell, 525 cars (of which 28 were from France and 194 Canadian cars sent from Singapore out of stock) being imported from foreign ports : 33 English cars valued at Rs. 1·85 lakhs were imported as against 59 valued at Rs. 4·51 lakhs in 1921-22. The cheap American and Canadian cars still hold the field. Commercial vehicles fell from 33 to 24.

Import of liquors rose in quantity from 618,392 gallons to 688,871 gallons but fell in value. Most of the beer came from the United Kingdom but German beer more than doubled, from 57,502 gallons to

122,289 gallons, and Japanese beer fell off. Luxury wines also diminished. Salt imports fell from 61,242 tons to 57,777 tons mainly from England and Egypt, German salt imports increasing from 5,603 to 13,763 tons. Clearances totalled 60,921 tons against 56,367 tons. Burma salt imported into Rangoon amounted to 8,406 tons against 12,676. Sugar supplies almost rose to pre-war quantity level, almost all from Java, prices remaining at lower levels of 1921-22. Saccharine of which the 5 tons imported equal to 2,500 tons of sugar now pays a duty of Rs. 20 per pound. Foreign tobacco rose from Rs. 25 to Rs. 38 lakhs and coasting imports from Rs. 47·60 lakhs to Rs. 52·66 lakhs, despite competition of duty free import of cigarettes from China. Reaction from the exceptional 1921-22 conditions brought coal imports from 569,525 tons down to 417,349 tons, of which 331,530 tons came from Bengal. Foreign imports of mineral fuel oil fell from 70,857 tons to 40,943 tons, crude oil from Assam increased by 425 tons to 11,243. American kerosene rose from 368,775 gallons to 903,400 gallons and American lubricating oils declined. Fluctuation in the smaller lines of import trade were mostly upward.

Burma's Rice Exports.

118. The total exports of rice and paddy from Burma (excluding inter-portal trade) amounted to 2,484,314 tons valued at Rs. 3,925·27 lakhs an increase of 241,714 tons and Rs. 214·38 lakhs over 1921-22. Of this total 1,791,345 tons valued at Rs. 28,24·44 lakhs went to foreign ports, as against 1,255,313 tons valued at Rs. 21,52·21 lakhs in the previous year, and 692,969 tons valued at Rs. 11,00·83 lakhs went to India as against 987,287 tons valued at Rs. 15,58·68 lakhs. The largest shipments were to Germany (310,588 tons an increase of 79,324 tons over 1921-22), next come Ceylon (268,451 tons), the Straits Settlements (172,578 tons), China (167,617 tons), Eygpt, largely Port Said " for orders " (117,881 tons), Hongkong (104,379 tons) and the United Kingdom (95,890 tons). Japan took 79,516 tons as against 42,404 tons in the previous year. Java fell from 133,363 to 75,756 tons, but North America rose from 7,504 to 73,231 tons and Sumatra from 32,154 to 71,180 tons. Of the exports to India 275,734 tons went to Bombay, 198,754 tons to Madras and 70,161 tons to Bengal, the total sent to India being the lowest for many years, partly due to good crops in India. Prices for paddy remained over the Rs. 200 figure for more than half the year and in November 1922 fell to Rs. 165 on cessation of demand, the carry over of old crop to 1923 being estimated at between 150,000 and 200,000 cargo rice tons. This factor with a large crop coming to market led to the belief that the 1923 market would open low, but small arrivals disappointed the prophets and paddy prices ranged from Rs. 170—175 in the beginning of 1923 to Rs. 180—185 in March. Rice prices reflected the fluctuation in paddy, but the heavy speculation of 1921 was not repeated. All control on export had been removed by 31st December 1921.

Exports of rice bran increased from 170,145 tons valued at Rs. 1,00·36 lakhs to 197,995 tons valued at Rs. 1,13·75 lakhs ; 107,363 tons going to the United Kingdom and 35,841 tons to Germany and the Straits demand declining. The average price was Rs. 58 against Rs. 59 per ton in the previous year.

Rangoon Export Trade.

119. The total value of principal articles of export sent to foreign countries from Rangoon rose from Rs. 28,72 lakhs in 1921-22 to Rs. 33,71 lakhs, the principal variations being rice husked and unhusked Rs. 23,23 lakhs (increase of

Rs. 4,72 lakhs), mineral oils Rs. 2,24 lakhs (increase of Rs. 29 lakhs), pig lead Rs. 1,39 lakhs (increase of Rs. 27 lakhs), raw cotton Rs. 1,21 lakhs (decrease of Rs. 43 lakhs), paraffin wax Rs. 1,18 lakhs (decrease of Rs. 6 lakhs), bran and pollard Rs. 92 lakhs (increase of Rs. 7 lakhs), grain, pulse and flour excluding rice Rs. 77 lakhs (decrease of Rs. 20 lakhs), wood and timber Rs. 72 lakhs (increase of Rs. 30 lakhs) and oil cakes Rs. 44 lakhs (increase of Rs. 8 lakhs). The total value of exports from Rangoon to Indian ports fell from Rs. 24,04 lakhs in 1921-22 to Rs. 18,79 lakhs the principal variations being : rice husked and unhusked Rs. 704 lakhs (decrease of Rs. 4,47 lakhs), mineral oils excluding paraffin wax Rs. 689 lakhs (decrease Rs. 39 lakhs), wood and manufactures of wood Rs. 203 lakhs (increase of Rs. 1 lakh), grain and pulse excluding rice Rs. 75 lakhs (decrease of Rs. 31 lakhs), lac Rs. 58 lakhs (increase of Rs. 10 lakhs), railway plant and rolling stock Rs. 36 lakhs (decrease of Rs. 9 lakhs), fruits and vegetables Rs. 26 lakhs (increase of Rs. 5 lakhs), candles Rs. 18 lakhs (increase of Rs. 2 lakhs) and " all other articles " Rs. 72 lakhs (decrease of Rs. 16 lakhs).

Rangoon Trade: Export of other Commodities.

120. The teak trade figures are affected by a large export of timber on Government account nearly half the 12,523 tons shipped to the United Kingdom being so consigned out of a total of foreign shipments of 25,635 tons ; the 1921-22 trade was 14,508 tons. Germany took 2,307 tons against 794 tons in the previous year and the United States Government made a large purchase which increased the export to that country from 101 to 1,970 tons. Exports to India rose from 17,784 tons to 122,648 tons and the total exports to 148,283 tons. The local market for converted timber was good, but logs were in excess supply and prices fell during the year. Exports of hides and skin were again below the previous year in number and value, the depression caused by the export duty, adverse exchange and competition continuing to affect the trade which was Rs. 1,09 lakhs in 1919-20, Rs. 28 lakhs in 1920-21, Rs. 16½ lakhs in 1921-22 and Rs. 15 lakhs in 1922-23. Rubber exports increased in bulk and value ; prices improving towards the end of the year ; the royalty was not collected during the year. Foreign exports of beans rose in bulk but fell in value, 24,974 tons going to the United Kingdom and 25,776 tons to Japan out of a total of 56,452 tons. Madras took 17,506 tons of the 18,186 tons shipped to India ; the 1921-22 export to India being 34,334 tons. Lac exports amounted to 51,985 tons which, though nearly 4,000 tons short of 1921-22, were valued at Rs. 57·72 lakhs or Rs. 11 lakhs more than in the previous year. Pig lead again formed the bulk of the metals and ores exported 14,998 tons going to the United Kingdom, 12,696 tons to Japan and 5,508 tons to Ceylon out of a total of 39,742 tons, while 1,550 tons went to India against 31,636 tons foreign and 1,671 India in 1921-22. The zinc ore shipped, 10,900 tons against 6,000 tons in the previous year, all went to Belgium. Twelve tons of tin ore went to the Straits Settlements and 194 tons of block tin to India. No wolfram was shipped. Jade stone to the extent of 5,532 cwts. valued at Rs. 18·21 lakhs was shipped, an increase of 776 cwts. and Rs. 40,000. Exports of kerosene to India fell from 133 million gallons to 124 million which figure is still in excess of all years except 1921-22. India took 16 million gallons of benzine and petrol and nearly 20 million gallons went to foreign ports, both being slightly under the previous year's figure ; the total value of the mineral oil trade which fell in bulk by over 11 million gallons only diminished by Rs. 21·79 lakhs from Rs. 943·12 lakhs to

Rs. 921·33 lakhs. Paraffin wax exports were slightly below the record level of 1921-22 and the export of candles also fell, the coasting trade being again above the foreign. The United Kingdom took 4,816 out of the total cotton exports of 10,956 tons, Japan falling off from 13,452 to 3,576 tons ; Germany bought 699 tons and China and Hongkong 1,829 tons, while 730 tons went overland to Western China.

Distribution of Rangoon Trade.

121. Of the total imports into Rangoon of private merchandise valued at Rs. 19,92·22 lakhs, Rs. 11,00·62 lakhs came from the United Kingdom and Rs. 1,78·81 lakhs from the rest of the British Empire, a total of Rs. 12,79·43 lakhs or 64·2 per cent. The Straits Settlements with Rs. 1,05·28 lakhs and Hongkong with Rs. 42·33 lakhs followed the United Kingdom. Of foreign countries Japan Rs. 1,98·97 lakhs, United States Rs. 1,08·89 lakhs, Germany Rs. 91·25 lakhs, Netherlands Rs. 89·74 lakhs and Java Rs. 74·45 lakhs were the principal. Exports totalling Rs. 33,84 lakhs included Rs. 4,57·75 lakhs to the United Kingdom and Rs. 14,84·37 lakhs to the rest of the British Empire, the total, Rs. 19,42·12 lakhs, being 50 per cent. of the whole. Germany with Rs. 3,68·81 lakhs, Japan Rs. 2,72·13 lakhs and China Rs. 2,53·15 lakhs were the principal foreign countries, the United States taking on Rs. 16·42 lakhs. Trade with India amounted to Rs. 34,44·02 lakhs, a falling off of Rs. 6,45·62 lakhs from 1921-22, Bengal's share being 45 per cent., Bombay 25½ per cent., Madras 24¾ per cent., Sind 3¼ per cent. and non-British Indian ports 1½ per cent.

Subordinate Ports.

122. The share of trade of the minor ports of Akyab, Moulmein, Bassein, Tavoy, Mergui, Kyaukpyu, Victoria Point and Sandoway rose from 11·84 per cent. of the foreign and coasting trade in 1921-22 to 13·69 per cent. In foreign trade it rose from 7·37 per cent. to 10·06 per cent. and in the Indian trade from 12·49 per cent. to 14·60 per cent. Interportal trade fell as regards imports in Rangoon, Mergui, Tavoy, Victoria Point, Akyab and Kyaukpyu, but rose in Moulmein, Sandoway and Bassein. Export interportal trade fell in Rangoon, Mergui, Tavoy, Akyab, Kyaukpyu, Sandoway and Bassein, but rose in Moulmein and Victoria Point. As usual the trade between Rangoon and Tenasserim ports far exceeded that with the Bay of Bengal ports.

Transfrontier Trade : Total Trade.

123. The total of transfrontier trade with Western China and Siam again declined, increased imports being more than balanced by decreased exports. The Trade Registration Office at Kasu, Myitkyina District, was closed on 1st December 1921. The aggregate of merchandise, timber and treasure fell from Rs. 3,22·34 lakhs to Rs. 3,14·87 lakhs. Merchandise formed 70 per cent., timber (from Northern Siam only) 4 per cent. and treasure 26 per cent.

Trade with China.

124. The import trade from Western China continued to grow, especially in raw silk which contributed Rs. 71 lakhs out of a total of Rs. 100 lakhs worth of merchandise, consequent on the growing importance of the Burma weaving industry : this led to a large demand and consequent rise of price. Orpiment and stick lac increased and silver (almost wholly in rupees) rose by Rs. 10 lakhs to Rs. 55 lakhs. The import of cigarettes

increased, 1,584 maunds valued at Rs. 2,02,726 being imported compared with 1,511 maunds valued at Rs. 1,79,245 in 1921-22. Exports were mainly Indian twist and yarn and European piece-goods which combined formed 75 per cent. of the total value. Raw cotton, Burma grown, again fell from Rs. 6·72 lakhs to Rs. 5·89 lakhs. The total value of exports and imports fell by only Rs. 1½ lakhs to Rs. 2,39 lakhs. The Chinese authorities introduced fresh tolls on merchandise entering or quitting the Shan States.

Trade with Siam.

125. The total value of imports from Siam fell from Rs. 51·27 lakhs to Rs. 49·69 lakhs and of exports from Rs. 30·28 lakhs to Rs. 25·88 lakhs. There were increases in imports from Northern Siam in respect of cattle and silk piece-goods and decreases in respect of elephants, grain, pulse, timber and treasure. Imports from Southern Siam fell off as regards cattle and elephants. Exports of cotton goods, dyes, and raw silk to Northern Siam fell off ; also of apparel, dyes, metals, silk piece-goods and treasure to Southern Siam. The Siamese railways have now been extended to Chiengmai with adverse influence on the export of European goods from Moulmein to Bangkok. Large imports of raw silk through Bhamo checked the trade with Siam.

Trade with Unadministered Kachin Country.

126. This trade continues to fall in sympathy with the mining activity ; the total trade fell from Rs. 3·80 lakhs to Rs. 3·59 lakhs.

Trade with the Shan States and Karenni.

127. A considerable increase in both exports and imports from the Northern Shan States is recorded, the former being Rs. 4,77·85 lakhs as against Rs. 3,37·64 lakhs in 1921-22 and the latter Rs. 4,71·98 lakhs as against Rs. 3,94·26 lakhs, a total increase of Rs. 2,18 lakhs or 30 per cent. consequent on the progress of the Burma Corporation Mines, although part of the trade is through trade with China. Exports to the Northern Shan States of cotton goods, dyes, grain and pulse, provisions, and tobacco increased, and there was a large export of railway material. The imports of lead rose from 921,578 tons valued at Rs. 1,28·38 lakhs to 1,094,006 tons valued at Rs. 1,75·61 lakhs and of refined silver from 2,806,726 oz. valued at Rs. 90·92 lakhs to 3,212,201 oz. valued at Rs. 1,04·10 lakhs. Trade with the Southern Shan States rose to Rs. 264·73 lakhs (Rs. 1,10·41 lakhs imports and Rs. 154·32 lakhs exports) from Rs. 257·49 lakhs (Rs. 111·52 imports and Rs. 1,45·97 exports). Trade with Karenni, where the Mawchi mines are still closed, rose slightly because of increased timber imports which represented Rs. 6·54 lakhs out of the total of Rs. 10·61 lakhs and increased exports of cotton goods, provisions and treasure.

Public Works.

Administrative and General.

128. Reference has already been made in paragraph 3 to the administrative changes which took place in the Public Works Department during the year. In the buildings and roads branch four of the nine charges were made Superintending Engineers' circles, while five were placed under senior Executive Engineers as Superintendents of Works.

Effect was given to the re-arrangement without any change in the cadres of the Indian Service of Engineers or of the Burma Engineering Service. The total expenditure of the buildings and roads branch, including military and central works, was Rs. 2,43·97 lakhs, against a budget grant of Rs. 2,67·31 lakhs. This expenditure was higher by Rs. 14·50 lakhs than that of the previous year.

(i) *Roads and Buildings.*

Communications.

129. The total length of metalled roads in the province outside municipalities and notified areas was 2,254 miles, of which all but 80 miles was maintained by the Public Works Department. The length of unmetalled roads was 9,599 miles; 2,719 miles were in charge of local bodies, and the remainder in that of the Public Works Department. The total expenditure on provincial roads was Rs. 58·94 lakhs, or about 1¼ lakhs less than in the previous year. Rather less than half the amount was spent on original works, and the balance on repairs. The original work undertaken consisted mainly of improvements to existing roads to meet the present traffic requirements, by raising and widening embankments, metalling the travelling surface, demarcating the road land and replacing worn-out timber bridges with structures of a permanent character. Work on the opening up of the Government quarries at Môkpalin in the Thatôn District was started, and a considerable quantity of overburden was removed, exposing a face 1,600 feet in length and 80 to 100 feet in height. Work advanced sufficiently to make issues of laterite, granite boulders and road metal possible early in the following year.

Buildings: Central and Provincial.

130. There was a large building programme, of which several important items may be mentioned. In Rangoon a new Council Chamber and quarters for fifty-four Government officials were completed, as well as two out of three sections of a three-storeyed building of flats for European police sergeants. A section of the new lunatic asylum at Tadagale near Rangoon was completed, but could not be occupied until the completion of a water-supply and sanitary work. Quarters for one senior official were completed at Maymyo; and in different parts of the province police quarters were wholly or almost completed at 17 police stations. Among works in progress may be mentioned the buildings for the Agricultural College at Mandalay, a High Court building and a new office for the Commissioner at Mandalay, courts for District and Sessions Judges at 17 stations and quarters for the Judges at 8 stations, quarters and offices for a number of forest officers, a new hotel circuit-house at Maymyo, and a new central jail at Tharrawaddy.

Miscellaneous public improvements and sanitary works.

131. Reclamation was carried out at Mawlaik and at Mogaung; and work for the protection of the banks of the Chindwin was completed. Water-supply schemes were completed for the new Windermere Park estate in Rangoon and for the town of Ma-ubin, while those for the new lunatic asylum at Tadagale and for Pegu neared completion. Other supply schemes were in progress at Tharrawaddy and Shwebo. Estimates were prepared for water-supply to the Pyinmana forest school and to a number of towns in different

parts of the province. Sewage disposal schemes for Windermere Park and the new lunatic asylum were wholly or nearly completed, and plans were prepared for similar work at the Agricultural College.

Military.

132. New cooking apparatus for the British Infantry lines in Rangoon and a new engine and pump for the Meiktila cantonment water-supply were provided. Two barracks in the British Infantry lines at Maymyo were reconstructed, and quarters for three officers were completed. New lines for the mule corps at Mandalay were completed.

(ii) *Railways and Tramways.*

Railways: Construction and Surveys.

133. The Burma Railways Company, Limited, works all the railways of the province including those which are provincially owned and are being built out of rice control profits.

The mileage open was 1,640·37, there being 24·26 miles of new Provincial lines opened and 6·52 miles closed, the latter a loop line near Rangoon rendered unnecessary by the opening of the new bridge over the Pazundaung Creek in May 1922. Lines under construction amounted to 181·75 miles, all being built out of provincial funds.

The report and estimate of the completed survey of Mingaladon-Bauktaw railway are awaited. At the instance of the Chairman, Rangoon Development Trust, Rangoon, the Agent, Burma Railways Company, Limited, was approached for the early construction of the line and in particular the immediate acquisition of the land necessary for the construction of the line in view of the rapid appreciation of land values on the proposed alignment.

Although the Railway Board have intimated their approval to the construction of the Kyangin-Pe'tye railway as a ballast siding at the cost of open line funds, no progress was made during the year in this respect.

The construction of the line from Lèwe to Taungdwingyi, part of the Pyinmana-Taungdwingyi railway, is still in progress. The Railway Board in their notification No. 1173P., dated the 12th October 1922, sanctioned a survey by the agency of the Burma Railways Company, Limited, at the cost of this Government, for an extension on the metre gauge of the Pyinmana-Taungdwingyi railway from Taungdwingyi to Kyaukpadaung, a distance of about 78 miles.

The construction of the Alôn-Saingbyin railway from Budalin to Saingbyin is still in progress.

The report and estimate for the Saingbyin (Segyi-)Ye-u-Taze railway were received and the construction from Segyi to Ye-u from rice control profits has been sanctioned. The work on this line is still in progress.

The section of the Moulmein-Ye railway from Moulmein to Mudôn was opened on the 2nd August 1923 for coaching and goods traffic. The remaining portion is still in progress.

The Railway Board in their notification No. 1153P., dated the 28th September 1922, sanctioned a survey being carried out by the agency of the Burma Railways Company, at the cost of this Government, for an extension of the Moulmein-Ye railway on the metre gauge from Ye to the steamer anchorage at Sinbyubin, south of Tavoy, a distance of about 125 miles. The survey of this line was postponed until the season of 1923-24.

The report and estimate for the Tahapalai-Namtu railway were received from the Agent, Burma Railways Company. The question of constructing this line is still under consideration.

The construction of the Heho-Inlè Valley line (a distance of 9·35 miles in extension of the Southern Shan States railway) has been deferred for the present, although the survey was completed in 1921.

Hukong-Valley survey (Ledo to Sahmaw), a distance of 278·71 miles, was surveyed by Mr. F. W. Allum, Engineer-in-chief. The construction of this line is still under the consideration of the Railway Board.

A reconnaissance survey of the Namtu-Namkham Valley line was made by Mr. F. S. Bond, the Government Inspector of Railways, Circle No. IIA, Burma. His report was received. The Railway Board, when asking for the views of the Burma Government on the project, stated that the construction of the line to whatever extent decided upon was dependent on the Local Government being in a position to arrange for financing the project.

The Railway Board in their notification No. 1172P., dated the 7th December 1922, sanctioned a resurvey being carried out by the agency of the Burma Railways Company from rice control profits of the Pegu-Kayan section of the Pegu-Syriam railway on the metre gauge, a distance of about 37 miles. The survey has been completed and a start has been made with the construction.

Accidents and Interruptions.

134. The year ending the 15th September 1923 was not marked by any very serious accident. On the 31st December 1922, No. 8 down mail train from Prome, while entering Insein station, collided with a second class inspection carriage which had been detached from a previous train an hour or so earlier. The carriage was slightly damaged, but no passengers were injured.

On the 31st December 1922, the fourteenth vehicle from the engine of No. 78 down mixed train got derailed at mile 556/16 between Nankan and Gyodaung stations, due to the failure of the tyre flange of the right leading wheel. Transhipment of passengers, luggage and mails was resorted to. Numbers 77 up and 78 down mixed trains were detained for four hours and fifty-seven minutes and nine hours and thirty-five minutes respectively. The wagon was re-railed sixteen hours after the accident on the 1st January 1923. Approximate cost of damage to rolling stock is Rs. 250. No one was injured and no damage was done to permanent way.

On the 9th March 1923, at about 1-45 hours, at mile 82/1 p.m., No. 31 up mixed, while proceeding from Môkpalin to Kyaikkatha, was derailed, resulting in the engine and tender capsizing; nine loaded vehicles being piled up and two bogie coaches telescoping. Two passengers were killed. The driver (Jefferies) was badly scalded, and succumbed to his injuries two days later. Four passengers were seriously injured, and seventeen received minor injuries. The cost of damage to rolling stock was about Rs. 21,350 and to permanent way Rs. 500. The cause of the derailment was the removal of a rail by some persons unknown.

On the 18th March 1923, at about 0-15 hours at Taikkyi station, while an engine was backing wagons over the south facing points to attach on to No. 320 down goods, the driver of an up goods special ran against signals and collided with it, resulting in the 8th and 9th vehicles from

the engine of 320 down goods being derailed and the 10th, 11th and 12th vehicles being capsized. Through running was interrupted until 11-45 hours the same day. The damage to rolling stock and permanent way was about Rs. 4,024.

Heavy rains caused several interruptions of traffic but only two were of a prolonged extent.

On the 18th September 1922, at 17 hours, owing to heavy rains, the line was breached at miles 386/12—13S and 389/7—9S between Heho and Lwekaw stations, rendering it unsafe for the passage of trains. The line was rectified and through communication restored at 14 hours on the 19th September 1922.

On the 25th September 1922, at 16 hours, owing to heavy rains, the line was breached at mile 391/9—11S between Lwekaw and Heho stations rendering it unsafe for the passage of trains. The line was rectified and through communication restored at 16 hours on the 27th September 1922.

On the 27th September 1922, at about 16 hours, owing to heavy rains, at mile 86-15 p.m., near Kyaikkatha station, Pegu end abutment of bridge No. 42 (2 spans of 20 feet girders) was found cracked near the centre from top to bottom, rendering the line unsafe for the passage of trains. At 2 hours on the 28th September 1922, the abutment collapsed. At about 6-30 hours on the 29th September 1922, a sudden subsidence took place in the approach immediately behind the Martaban end abutment and several large holes were found in the bank. These were at once filled in with boulders; in spite of this, the abutment settled down bodily although no cracks were discernible. On the evening of the 29th September 1922, heavy rain fell and shortly afterwards, small cracks appeared at the foot of the abutment. Every effort was made to save this abutment, but the founds were undermined and the abutment collapsed during the night. Transhipment of passengers, mails, luggage, etc., of 31 up, 32 down and 33 up and 34 down mixed trains was resorted to from the 28th to the 30th September 1922. Through booking of goods was suspended, but local mixed trains terminated at Boyagyi and Môkpalin. Through running and booking were resumed at 6 hours on the 3rd October 1922.

On the 30th September 1922, at about 7-40 hours, owing to heavy rains, the line at mile 209/3 to 210/2, between Yeni and Ela stations, was flooded, rendering it unsafe for the passage of trains. Transhipment was impossible. Numbers 45 and 47 up local mixed trains ran as far as Yeni station, and the corresponding down trains ran as far as Ela station. Through running of all up and down goods trains was suspended between Toungoo and Yamèthin stations on the 30th September. The line was rectified and through communication restored at 17 hours on the 2nd October 1922.

On the 9th October 1922, at about 16 hours, owing to heavy rains, the line at mile 391-9-11S, between Lwekaw and Heho stations, was flooded and breached, rendering it unsafe for the passage of trains. The bank was washed away to a depth of four to seven feet for a distance of about 700 feet, as also the parapet wall of bridge No. 356 on the down stream side. The ballast also was washed away in several places, and damage done to the triangle lines in Heho station yard. The line was rectified and through communication restored on the 12th October 1922.

On the 5th April 1923, at about 15 hours, owing to heavy rain, a temporary bridge at mile 391-9S., between Lwekaw and Heho stations

was rendered unsafe for the passage of trains. The line was rectified at 16-10 hours on the 6th April 1923.

At about 15 hours, at mile 371-11S., between Kalaw and Aungban stations, the line was breached, rendering it unsafe for the passage of trains. The line was rectified and through communication restored on the 13th April 1923.

On the 19th May 1923, at 22 hours, owing to heavy rains, the water was banked up at mile 348-8 11T., between Panaing and Yônzingyi stations and flowed over the permanent way between miles 348-9T to 348-11T washing away the bank completely for a length of 32 feet between 348-10 and 11T and also portions of the bank in several places between mile 348-9 and 11T rendering it unsafe for the passage of trains. The line was rectified and through communication restored at 20-30 hours on the 20th May 1923.

On the 8th June 1923, owing to heavy rains, the line was breached in places between Thityabin and Gyodaung stations, rendering it unsafe for the passage of trains. The line was rectified and through communication restored on the 14th June 1923.

On the 9th June 1923, at about 9 hours, owing to heavy rains, the line at miles 563-24 to 567, between Nankan and Bonchaung stations, was blocked, owing to earth and rock having fallen. In other places the water being too much for the side drain to carry off, flowed on down the grade and damaged the bank in several places.

At mile 570-13, between Bonchaung and Meza stations, there was a very heavy flow of water through bridge No. 403 (2 spans of 40 feet and 1 span of 100 feet) where the water rose 9 feet above previous high flood level and the bank in several places was topped from here down to mile 572-10. The line was rectified and through communication restored on the 14th June 1923.

On the 10th June 1923, owing to the bursting of the bund of the Public Works Department tank at Shwebo, the line at mile 464 to 468-6-9 between Kinu and Tantabin stations, was flooded and damaged. The line was rectified and through communication restored on the 23rd June 1923.

On the 10th June 1923, at 6 hours, owing to heavy rains, at mile 490-10, between Ngapayin and Segyi stations, the water topped the bank and washed away a length of 25 feet rendering it unsafe for the passage of trains. The line was repaired and through communication restored at 12-45 hours the same day.

On the 29th July 1923, owing to heavy rains, the line was breached in places between Zaungdan and Ka-Nyinngu stations, rendering it unsafe for the passage of trains. The line was flooded and damaged. The line was rectified and through communication restored at 17-5 hours on the 6th August 1923.

On the 30th July 1923, owing to heavy rains, the line at mile 47-3—5 p.m., between Pegu and Shanywagyi stations, was breached to a total length of 120 feet and ballast washed away to a depth of 2 feet rendering it unsafe for the passage of trains. The line was rectified and through communication restored on the 1st August 1923.

On the 31st July 1923, at about 15-20 hours, owing to heavy rains, and high tides, the line at mile 47-7 to 50-10, between Pegu and Shwehle stations, was reported unsafe for the passage of trains and the water rose 6 inches over the rails in places. The line was rectified and through communication restored at 6-35 hours on the 1st August 1923.

On the 3rd August 1923, owing to the bursting of the Ngawun river protective embankment in the neighbourhood of Ngathaingyaung, the line between Daikpyet and Tagongyi stations, a length of over 50 miles, was entirely flooded, necessitating the suspension of entire train service and the staff at certain stations had to be removed. The line was repaired and through running of trains between Henzada and Bassein to their normal timings was resumed on the 5th November 1923. Through booking of all traffic was resumed to and from all stations with the exception of Degon station at mile 138¾B. This station had been so damaged by the floods that it will not be re-opened for some time.

On the 8th August 1923, owing to heavy flood, bridge No. 379, consisting of two spans of 40 feet and two spans of 60 feet over the Kanthachaung, at mile 125-20P., between Nattalin and Paungdè stations, was very seriously damaged by a jam of timber logs. The jam assumed a wedge shape between the piers, the estimated number of logs being over 2,000. The height to which the logs piled themselves against the piers was estimated at about 25 feet. The centre pier supporting the 60 feet spans, was shifted about 6 feet southwards and 3 feet westwards, the weight of one of the girders preventing it from toppling over. The southern end of the other 60 feet girder dropped into the stream, the north end resting against No. 3 pier. The protective pitching at the north abutment collapsed and with it the masonry walls exposing the screw piles for a considerable portion of their length. Transhipment of passengers was resorted to. The wrecked pier had been replaced by a cement concrete case and through communication restored on the 25th September 1923. It is proposed to reconstruct this bridge with one large span of 125 feet clear.

On the 11th August 1923, owing to high floods, the wing wall of bridge No. 55 (2 spans of 10 feet), at mile 43-9, on the down line, just north of Payathônzu station, collapsed. The down line was put out of use and single line working was adopted between Payathônzu and Pegu. As a temporary measure, a 20-feet girder was put in and double line working resumed at about 18-10 hours on the 14th August 1923.

On the 17th August 1923, at about 21-50 hours, owing to heavy rains, the line at mile 80-10 to 81-4, between Paungdawthi and Pyuntaza stations, was flooded, rendering it unsafe for the passage of trains. The line was rectified and through communication restored on the 19th August 1923. On the 17th August 1923, owing to heavy flood, bridge No. 538 (3 spans of 40 feet), at mile 618-19, between Mawlu and Mawhan stations, was reported unsafe for the passage of trains by a jam of timber logs. The banks behind the north and south abutment of the bridge were washed away, as also the bank for a length of 41 feet behind the south abutment at bridge No. 550 (2 spans of 20 feet and 1 span of 60 feet), at mile 621-16, between Mawhan and Kadu stations. Transhipment of passengers was impossible but mails were transhipped. The line was rectified and through communication restored on the 25th August 1923.

On the 19th August 1923, owing to heavy rain, the line at mile 111-7 to 111-13 p. m., between Taungzun and Hninpale stations, was breached, rendering it unsafe for the passage of trains. Three gaps of 30, 40 and 60 feet in length were formed. The line was rectified and through communication restored at 14-35 hours on the 28th August 1923.

On the 23rd August 1923, at about 0-30 hour, owing to heavy rain, the line at mile 80-15 and 81-4, between Paungdawthi and Pyuntaza stations, was again flooded, rendering it unsafe for the passage of trains.

The flood subsided and through communication was restored at 12 hours on the 24th August 1923.

On the 30th August 1923, owing to a rise in the Mu river, the line at mile 414-10 to 416A., between Legyi and Nyaungbinwun stations, was breached for a length of about a quarter of a mile, rendering it unsafe for the passage of trains. The line was rectified and through communication restored on the 12th September 1923.

On the 2nd September 1923, at about 6-30 hours owing to heavy rain, the Yeni *chaung* overflowed its banks. The ballast from the line was washed away and the bank scoured out about 1½ feet at mile 209-4½ to 6½ and 4 feet to 5 feet deep at mile 209-9½ to 10½, between Yeni and Thawati stations, rendering it unsafe for the passage of trains. The line was rectified and through communication restored at 16 hours on the 3rd September 1923.

On the 12th September 1923, owing to the bursting of a bund north of Budalin, the line was breached in places between Sangon and Ngapayin stations, rendering it unsafe for the passage of trains. The line was rectified and through communication restored on the 14th September 1923.

Traffic and Finance.

135. During 1922-23 the number of passengers carried on the Burma Railways system (including the lines owned by the province) was 34,638,727, a decrease of 431,041 as compared with the previous year. Gross earnings amounted on the main line to Rs. 3,65·23 lakhs, Pegu-Martaban section to Rs. 28·49 lakhs, Henzada-Kyangin, Rs. 4·84 lakhs, and Southern Shan States, Rs 7·47 lakhs, total Rs. 4,06·03 lakhs (an increase of Rs. 52·79 lakhs). Working expenses were : main line Rs. 2,17·09 lakhs, Pegu-Moulmein section, Rs. 17·10 lakhs, Henzada-Kyangin, Rs. 3·54 lakhs, and Southern Shan States, Rs 6·63 lakhs total Rs 2,44·36 lakhs, (a decrease of Rs 2·05 lakhs). The net earnings were thus Rs. 1,61·67 lakhs, an increase of Rs. 54·84 lakhs. Capital outlay on the main line amounted to Rs. 62·64 lakhs bringing the total since the commencement of operations to Rs. 19,38·46 lakhs. Capital outlay on the Pegu-Moulmein, Henzada-Kyangin and Southern Shan States Railway amounted to Rs. 19·41 lakhs (almost wholly on the Pegu-Moulmein line) bringing the total capital expenditure on these branches to Rs. 4,08 lakhs. The total capital expenditure on the entire undertaking to 31st March 1923 was thus Rs. 23,46·46 lakhs. The East Daga project on which Rs. 25,708 has been spent is still suspended. The principal object of capital expenditure included the construction of new crossing stations, replacement of bridges and rolling stock sold overseas, the remodelling of four stations and yards, construction of new bridges, relaying parts of the line with heavier rails, provision of telephone train control, erection of quarters for staff and doubling the line from Pyuntaza to Pyu.

Capital expenditure on the four sanctioned projects for the provincial railways (Pyinmana to Taungdwingyi, Alon to Saingbyin, Moulmein to Ye and Segyi to Ye-U) amounted to Rs. 54·53 lakhs making the total capital expenditure thereon Rs. 109·24 lakhs. A sum of Rs. 863 was spent on the Pegu-Kayan project the estimate for which was in preparation. A portion of the line from Pyinmana to Lewe, 10·26 miles was opened for traffic on 1st August 1922, and a portion of the line from Alon to Budalin, 14 miles was opened on 1st July 1922. The operation of these two sections resulted as follows : gross earnings Rs. 55,486 : gross working expenses Rs. 25,790 : net earnings, Rs. 29,696.

Tramways.

136. The passengers carried on the Rangoon tramway system numbered 32,629,302, an increase of 1,463,503 over 1921-22. The running mileage was computed at 2,165,731, an increase of 27,326 miles. The total receipts amounted to Rs. 17·15 lakhs, an increase of Rs. ·69 lakh. No new section was opened but the single track in Judah Ezekiel Street was doubled. The Mandalay tramways, with a length of 6½ miles carried 4,906,756 passengers, an increase of 461,853, and the mileage rose from 445,351 to 457,322. Receipts rose to Rs. 3·98 lakhs, an increase of Rs. ·39 lakh. The Mandalay-Madaya light railway was acquired for Rs. 5 lakhs from the owner by the Local Government who handed it over to the Burma Railways Company to work on behalf of Government, and re-equipment was begun without stoppage of traffic.

(iii) *Canals.*

Navigation Canals.

137. The gross revenue of the Twante Canal again fell from Rs. 4·60 lakhs in 1921-22 to Rs. 4·40 lakhs in 1922-23, and maintenance charges rose from Rs. ·87 lakh to Rs. 1·40 lakhs. Erosion of the banks went on in the New Cut, especially in the south bank where the soil, mainly composed of soil thrown up by dredgers during the original excavation, yielded easily to tidal action; and four laterite bars, 100 feet wide and 200 feet apart on each bank, were made to check its action near the eastern end. No serious scour occurred in the bed of the main canal, but the bed of the New Cut has scoured two to three feet; the bight in the China Bakir bend above Twante-wa increased and is being carefully watched. The gross revenue of the Pegu-Sittang Canal fell from Rs. 2·21 lakhs in 1921-22 to Rs. 1·93 lakhs, and the working expenditure rose from Rs. 0·66 lakh to Rs. 2·29 lakhs, causing a deficiency on working of Rs. 0·36 lakh. Great trouble was again experienced in disposing of the water hyacinth. In place of the temporary sluices a bamboo boom over 1,500 feet long was constructed in October 1922 to confine weeds in the canal, with the intention of discharging them later through the Kyaikpadaing sluice. This experiment failed, the strong winds driving the weeds into the canal which was blocked for three days, a number of rafts being delayed in passage. A new device for crushing and killing the water hyacinth weeds is expected to give better results than the methods previously tried. The dredger "Renfrew" was used in deepening and widening the canal between miles 34/4 to 37/7 up to January 1923 when it was sent to Rangoon for overhaul.

Irrigation.

Major Works.

138. The four major irrigation works are the Ye-u, Mandalay, Shwebo and Môn Canals. Work on the Ye-u Canal was continued and it is expected to close the estimate by 31st March 1924, a year earlier than set forth in the final revised project forecast, despite scarcity of labour for water-course construction, due to the construction of the Môn ywa-Ye-u railway having been begun. All the large channels were partially opened to irrigation. Capital expenditure amounted to Rs. 2·99 lakhs. On the Mandalay Canal system, the waterway under the Thapangaing aqueduct had silted to such an extent that ordinary floods had to pass over it and as the canal supply was being increasingly interfered with an outfal

channel to the Chaungmagyi River was begun ; labour was difficult to obtain and the locality is feverish. The new offices at Shwebo for the Shwebo Canal system were nearly completed ; extensions of the Kabo training works were sanctioned and work was begun on the extension and improvement of the drain along the Hladaw branch canal which when completed will reduce the flooding in this area. Capital expenditure on the Shwebo project amounted to Rs. ·41 lakh. On the Môn Canal system the river training works at Mèzali were completed, the mid-stream groyne absorbing the sum of Rs. ·66 lakh. Additional protection against scour at the upstream end was provided. The proposals of the Natyegan-Yo drainage scheme were modified. Capital expenditure against the Môn Canals system was Rs. 1·53 lakh. The gross revenue from the four major works amounted to Rs. 13·26 lakhs and working expenses to Rs. 8·84 lakhs, the net revenue being Rs. 4·42 lakhs against Rs. 11·42 lakhs in 1921-22 and Rs. 5·28 lakhs in 1920-21.

Very satisfactory results were reported from the Mandalay Canal irrigation, supplies being sufficient with careful early distribution, the total area showing an increase of 1,687 acres over 1921-22. Supplies on the Shwebo Canal were at first satisfactory but an unusually low river in August retarded transplanting, and the irrigated area fell by 3,876 acres in Shwebo District. Results from Ye-u were short of expectations and the area cultivated was 8,241 acres below the forecast, but a large increase in cultivated areas was anticipated for 1923-24. Satisfactory supplies and the absence of destructive floods and overrush inundation led to an increase in the irrigated area of the Môn Canals of 10,932 acres over 1921-22. The total area irrigated by the four projects was 380,849 acres compared with 367,997 acres in 1921-22 and 327,999 in 1920-21 and the year as a whole was very successful from an irrigation point of view thanks to the absence of floods and the good distribution of rainfall during the year. Areas protected by embankments in Lower Burma, where no serious floods marred the year's work, fell a little to 653,488 acres but receipts rose from Rs. 13·94 lakhs to Rs. 15·75 lakhs.

During the year the Irrigation Branch, Public Works Department, was separated from the Buildings and Roads Branch, the Irrigation Circle was divided into two, the Northern and Southern Circles, and three new divisions were formed under Delta Circle, two being temporary for the preparation of large projects. Surveys for important embankments in the Irrawaddy and Salween deltas were in progress, and investigations of canals and tank projects of six dry zone districts were undertaken.

Minor Works.

139. All the minor irrigation works, except in Shwebo and Magwe Districts, reported considerable increase in the area irrigated, the total being 382,362 acres against 297,582 acres in 1921-22 ; the greatly improved arrangement on the Zawgyi system recently introduced in the Kyauksè District led to the area there topping the previous record, the increase being 18,562 acres, while Meiktila rose by 28,624, Yamèthin by 21,143 and Minbu by 11,350 acres, the area irrigated by the Salin Canals being largely responsible for the increase in the last-named district. The absence of floods and regular distribution of rainfall affected these minor works as they did the major. The gross receipts were Rs. 16·61 lakhs and working expenses Rs. 9·48 lakhs, the net revenue being Rs. 7·13 lakhs, an increase of over Rs. 6 lakhs.

CHAPTER V.

REVENUE AND FINANCE.

REFERENCES :—

Report on the Maritime Trade and Customs Administration of Burma for the official year 1922-23.

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Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of British India with the British Empire and Foreign Countries, Volume II.

Report on the Working of the Income-tax Act, XI of 1922, in Burma for the year 1922-23.

Report on the Administration of Salt Revenue in Burma during the year 1922-23.

Report on the Excise Administration in Burma during the year 1922-23.

Report on the Land Revenue Administration of Burma during the year ended the 30th June 1923.

Report on the Administration of the Stamp Revenue in Burma during the three years ended the 31st March 1923.

Report on Forest Administration in Burma for the year ending the 31st March 1923.

Administration Report of the Public Works Department, Burma (Irrigation Branch), for the year 1922-23.

Report on the Municipal Administration of the City of Rangoon for the year 1922-23.

Review of the Reports on the Working of Municipal Committees in Burma (except Rangoon) during the year 1922-23.

Administration Report of the Commissioners for the Port of Rangoon from the 1st April 1922 to the 31st March 1923.

Third Annual Report on the Working of the Rangoon Development Trust for the year 1922-23.

Statistical Abstract for British India, Volumes II and IV.

Financial Relations between Central and Provincial Governments.

140. There was no change during the year in the financial relations between the Central and Provincial Governments, as described in paragraph 219 of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1921-22. The principal central heads of revenue are Customs, Taxes on Income, Salt and Opium, the remaining heads being provincial. As in 1921-22 a contribution of Rs. 64 lakhs was required from the Government of Burma to the Central Government.

(a) Central Revenue and Finance.

Total Central Figures.

141. The accounts show a rise in central revenue receipts from Rs. 6,06'75 lakhs in 1921-22 to Rs. 8,24'99 lakhs in 1922-23; while expenditure amounted to Rs. 1'35'49 lakhs, against Rs. 1,36'89 lakhs in 1921-22. The bulk of the increase in receipts was contributed by "Customs," and to a smaller exent by "Taxes on Income."

Customs Revenue.

142. The increase of customs revenue amounted to Rs. 2,08'98 lakhs and was due to the enhancement of import tariff rates, to the rise in the amount of rice exported to foreign countries and consequently in the export duty paid, and to the imposition of an excise duty on kerosene. Customs expenditure fell by Rs. 0'92 lakh. An increase under pay of establishment was more than counterbalanced by the absence of outlay on the purchase of vessels during the year.

Taxes on Income.

143. No change took place in the rates of income-tax in the year of report, but the Income-tax Act of 1922 created a Board of Inland Revenue, with Commissioners of Income-tax in each Province, and the office so created for Burma was filled on 31st March 1923. The 1923 Act abolished the old adjustment system. The number of assessees to income-tax fell from 16,507 (10,241 in Rangoon) to 16,385, of whom 9,455 were in Rangoon; and nett collections fell from Rs. 110'18 lakhs (Rs. 98'25 lakhs in Rangoon) to Rs. 103'15 lakhs (Rs. 87'03 lakhs in Rangoon) largely as the result of unfavourable trade conditions and refunds on readjustment; but the fall was diminished by more efficient administration and a consequent reduction in evasion and under-assessment in Rangoon. Collections outside Rangoon increased, largely as the result of close supervision of the Nattukottai Chetties by the special officer and Tamil accountants brought from Madras for that purpose. Super-tax collections rose to Rs. 50'94 lakhs in Rangoon against Rs. 40'72 lakhs in 1921-22, and collections were also made in Akyab, Tharrawaddy, Prome and Amherst. Expenditure rose from Rs. 1'81 lakhs to Rs. 2'18 lakhs (equal to 1'4 per cent. of total nett collections of income-tax and super-tax), and further increase is anticipated. With the reorganisation of the department, involving additions to the number of whole-time officers throughout the province, closer supervision resulting in larger collections and reduction in evasion is also anticipated.

Salt—General.

144. The salt revenue is derived from customs duty on imports of foreign salt and from excise duty on salt manufactured locally. The total revenue from both sources was Rs. 32'34 lakhs, against Rs. 33'89 lakhs in the previous year. The decrease was confined to the duty on the local product, which amounted to Rs. 2'58 lakhs less than in 1921-22. The customs duty showed an increase of Rs. 1'02 lakhs. The rate of excise and customs duty alike was raised by 100 per cent. to Rs. 2-8 a maund on the 1st March 1923, but this had little or no effect on the figures owing to the general impression prevailing that, as in the previous year, the enhancement would be cancelled. There was no change in the methods of assessing duty. The cost of the salt revenue establishment rose from Rs. 1'02

lakhs to Rs. 1·29 lakhs, owing to the revision of salaries with retrospective effect. The percentage of costs to revenue increased from 8·04 to 12·12.

Consumption of Salt.

145. The total estimated consumption of salt in 1922-23 was 93,573 tons, or some two per cent. less than in the previous year. In the case of Burma salt the consumption fell from 1,053,775 maunds to 867,944 maunds. The consumption of imported foreign salt, on the other hand, increased from 1,540,788 to 1,668,483 maunds. The average consumption per head for the province was 17·97 lbs., against 18·54 lbs. in 1921-22. The average in Arakan rose from 7·4 lbs. to 9·3 lbs. Comparison with the provincial average suggests illicit manufacture, although there seems to have been some improvement in supervision during the year.

Opium.

146. Under the central head "Opium" there is no expenditure in Burma, and the receipts include only the payments made by the Local to the Central Government for the purchase of opium. The cost price of Bengal opium payable to the Government of India was raised from Rs. 20 to Rs. 23 per seer for the year under review, with a resulting increase of Rs. 0·57 lakh in the amount of payments.

(b) Provincial Revenue and Finance.

Total Provincial Figures.

147. The total receipts of provincial revenue shown in the accounts for 1922-23 were Rs. 8,95·43 lakhs, against Rs. 9,41·91 in 1921-22. There was an important decrease in forest revenue ; and within the financial year a decrease of land revenue also, owing to the fact that the figures for 1921-22 had been swollen by an unusually large sum outstanding from the preceding year and collected only after the 31st March 1921. The effect of these was enhanced by the fact that the total for 1921-22 had included profits on rice control to the amount of Rs. 27·94 lakhs, to which there was no corresponding item in 1922-23. Provincial expenditure amounted to Rs. 11,11·87 lakhs against Rs. 9,29·06 in 1921-22. The most important items in the increase were the issue of loans of Rs. 50 lakhs and Rs. 10 lakhs respectively to the Rangoon Port Trust and the Rangoon Development Trust from the rice control profits fund, heavier expenditure on the construction of provincial railways, which was financed from the same fund, and the purchase of dredgers by the Public Works Department.

Land Revenue.

148. The gross receipts under the head of land revenue in the agricultural year were Rs. 5,18·18 lakhs, against Rs. 5,06·88 lakhs in 1921-22.

The total number of assessees to capitation-tax in Lower Burma increased by over 20,000 to 1,404,180, the increase being due chiefly to persons assessed on blank tickets. This is due largely to the difficulty experienced last year in getting the tickets from the Government Press. The current demand increased by Rs. 0·98 lakh and remissions decreased by Rs. 0·36 lakh and outstandings remained stationary. The result was that collections increased by Rs. 1·35 lakhs.

The corresponding household tax in Upper Burma shows a slightly increased demand but a substantial increase in collections owing to decreased remissions. The collections were Rs. 40·77 lakhs compared with Rs. 39·61 lakhs last year.

The current fishery revenue demand rose to Rs. 50 lakhs, an increase of Rs. 5·96 lakhs over last year, arising almost entirely from leased fisheries. Remissions increased slightly but the outstandings issue over Rs. 1 lakh greater than at the commencement of the year and now amount to Rs. 1·43 lakhs. Collections therefore show an increase of Rs. 4·87 lakhs and now stand at Rs. 48·25 lakhs.

The total collections of miscellaneous land revenue rose to Rs. 45·95 lakhs, an increase of Rs. 2·65 lakhs. The principal items under this head have already been mentioned in paragraphs 107*ss*. Of the remaining items town land rents not credited to local funds rose from Rs. 3·48 lakhs to Rs. 4·03 lakhs owing partly to issue of new leases and partly to premia obtained on sales or leases put up to auction.

Excise—General.

149. The principal feature of the excise administration during the year was a striking increase of revenue from every source except foreign wines and spirits. Gross receipts amounted to Rs. 1,11·27 lakhs against Rs. 98·06 lakhs in the preceding year; the revenue from opium showed an increase of Rs. 6·86 lakhs, and that from alcohol an increase of Rs. 6·10 lakhs.

Excise—Opium.

150. The total provincial revenue from opium was Rs. 40·43 lakhs against Rs. 33·57 lakhs in 1921-22. The increase was entirely due to the raising of the wholesale rates at which opium was issued from the treasuries. The total quantity issued decreased from 34,669 seers to 32,918 seers, the general reduction being attributed to closer supervision over daily allowances as well as to casualties among registered Burman consumers, whose number fell to 3,911. No pronounced change in the taste for opium was discernible. Seizures of contraband opium on sea-going ships were made by the Customs Department only and the quantity seized fell by 20 per cent. The licensees' average nett profit per shop for the year rose from Rs. 930 to Rs. 1,257. The work of licensees was generally satisfactory.

Excise—Liquors.

151. Imports of foreign liquor increased in quantity but decreased in value. There was a big increase in both quantity and value of beer imported; and with this the issues from the Mandalay brewery decreased by 16,517 gallons. Owing to the enhancement of the duty from Re. 0-6-6 to Re. 0-8-0 per gallon at the beginning of the year, however, the duty realized at Mandalay was higher by Rs. 10,486 than in 1921-22. The issues of foreign spirit from distilleries in Burma fell by 5,216 gallons to 22,297 gallons, the lowest figure for many years. The issues of country spirit, on the other hand, increased by 3·4 per cent. to 151,689 gallons. The number of licenses for the vend of *tari* decreased from 534 to 517, some shops being abolished and others remaining unsold for want of bidders. Tree tax receipts declined; but the receipts from *tari* licenses in spite of the reduction in number rose from Rs. 8·81 lakhs to Rs. 9·92 lakhs. An experimental closing of *tari* shops at Amarapura in response to public opinion proved a definite failure during the year under review. A more sturdy public opinion is required to discourage drinking as well as to attack the excise revenue. Licenses for the vend of country fermented liquor other than *tari* were reduced from 333 to 321; but the total of license fees was Rs. 34·79 lakhs, the highest yet recorded.

The increase was attributed to an increased demand for *hlawzaye*, in consequence of the enhanced duty on spirit, with a weakening of temperance agitation.

Ganja, Cocaine and Morphia.

152. Nothing was undertaken during the year corresponding to the organized drive through the Yomas in 1921-22 for the destruction of growing *ganja* crops; and seizures consequently showed a heavy decline in quantity. Seizures of cocaine fell from 1,050,944 grains to 440,807 grains. The price of illicit cocaine in Rangoon was reported to have fallen during the year from Rs. 80 to Rs. 45 an ounce. The price of licit cocaine fell; but it is possible that successful smuggling was on the increase, in spite of vigorous action taken in Rangoon in the latter part of the year to suppress cocaine and morphia dens. Seizures of morphia amounted to 60,036 grains, against 1,563 grains in the previous year.

Stamps.

153. During the year of review the rate of exchange for British currency for *ad valorem* duties was raised to Rs. 15 per pound sterling: the rates for the franc and mark are subject to monthly variation. The inauguration of the High Court of Judicature at Rangoon with jurisdiction over the whole of Burma, and the abolition of the Judicial Commissionership of Upper Burma, involved amendments of the Court Fees and Stamp Acts. Notifications of the Government of India regarding reduction and remission of court fees have been inserted in the manual in the form of a consolidated notification.

Receipts for judicial stamps rose from Rs. 24·63 lakhs in 1921-22 to Rs. 26·42 lakhs (a record); non-judicial stamps produced Rs. 27·75 lakhs against Rs. 29·09 lakhs. Rangoon purchased one-third of the judicial and over one-half of the non-judicial stamps. Decreased revenue from judicial stamps was reported from Akyab and Hanthawaddy: the rise in Rangoon is ascribed to poor trade and tightness of money, as also to the enlarged area over which the High Court exercises appellate powers. Receipts from non-judicial stamps (impressed) fell by Rs. 2·56 lakhs to Rs. 9·71 lakhs in Rangoon but rose by Rs. 80,000 to Rs. 13·17 lakhs in the rest of the province, indicating the end of the Rangoon land boom. Stamps for legal practitioners' licenses rose from Rs. 12,995 to Rs. 17,880. The number of stamp vendors was further reduced by 146 to 1,661, the amount paid in discount rising by Rs. 4,726 to Rs. 82,057. Eight prosecutions for stamp offences resulted in the conviction of six and the acquittal of three persons. Tests of value of estates produced Rs. 2,180 in deficit court fees in 363 cases in addition to Rs. 0·34 lakh already paid, and a penalty of Rs. 211 was inflicted in one case. Rewards disbursed fell by one-third, several districts showing no prosecution or award. The nett receipts for the year of review excluding the amount collected on behalf of the Rangoon Development Trust or transfers of immovable property in Rangoon rose by Rs. 1·09 lakhs to Rs. 49·52 lakhs and the cost of supervision and stamps fell by Rs. 1,180.

Forests.

154. The revenue during the year amounted to Rs. 183·18 lakhs, the expenditure to Rs. 98·27 lakhs and the surplus was Rs. 84·91 lakhs. The revenue was Rs. 37·98 lakhs below that of the previous year and the expenditure showed an increase of Rs. 7·44 lakhs. The falling off in revenue is partly on

account of the poor floating season for teak and partly on account of the depression of the teak market.

Canal (Navigation and Irrigation) Revenue.

155. The revenue derived from, and the expenditure on, irrigation and navigation canals, protective embankments on drainage works have been dealt with in paragraphs 91, 137, 138 and 139 of this report. As the Local Government, out of the rice control profits, paid in 1920-21 to the Government of India all the amounts outstanding under the head of "Major Works—Irrigation," these works became wholly provincial, and the responsibility for capital expenditure and maintenance thereof and the right to receive revenues passed to the Local Government.

(c) Local Funds.

District Cess and District Funds.

156. The district cess funds in Lower Burma and the district funds in Upper Burma all became district funds, administered for the most part by district councils, towards the end of the year under review. During the early part of the year they still retained their old status and were administered by the Deputy Commissioners of their districts. The income of all these funds taken together amounted to Rs. 64·56 lakhs, and their expenditure to Rs. 69·86 lakhs. The total receipts were less by nearly Rs. 4½ lakhs than in 1921-22, owing mainly to the reasons which produced a decrease of land revenue within the financial year, the cess in Lower Burma being collected with the land revenue, but partly also to a reduction in the contributions made from provincial funds to various district funds for education and civil works. The total expenditure was nearly Rs. 3 lakhs higher than in the previous year, the increase being mainly on education and civil works in Lower Burma. Expenditure on these heads was reduced in Upper Burma, where the old district funds depended mainly on contributions from provincial funds. There was a considerable increase under general administration in both parts of the province, owing to the entertainment of staff and establishment for the new district councils.

Rangoon Municipal Fund.

157. The gross income of the Rangoon Corporation amounted to Rs. 80·50 lakhs, against Rs. 95·08 lakhs in the previous year but the latter figure had been swollen by considerable abnormal receipts. Exclusive of extraordinary credits, the nett income of the year was Rs. 63·30 lakhs, an increase of Rs. 3·73 lakhs above the figure for 1921-22. Over three-fourths of the increase was derived from municipal rates and taxes, owing to the revision of property assessment. The gross expenditure for the year amounted to Rs. 85·21 lakhs, against Rs. 106·47 lakhs in the previous year. Exclusive of extraordinary items, the ordinary expenditure was Rs. 63·72 lakhs, against Rs. 63·52 lakhs in the previous year. The loan charges for the year amounted to Rs. 10·69 lakhs, made up principally of Rs. 5·29 lakhs paid as interest and Rs. 4·74 lakhs paid to sinking fund. Repayments amounted to only Rs. 0·57 lakh within the year.

Other Municipal Funds.

158. Apart from opening balances amounting to Rs. 19·61 lakhs and debt accounts amounting to Rs. 7·85 lakhs, the total income of the 51 municipalities other than Rangoon was Rs. 58·51 lakhs, against Rs. 53·71 lakhs in the previous

year. The income from municipal rates and taxes rose from Rs. 21·98 lakhs to Rs. 22·44 lakhs, and there was also an increase in revenue derived from municipal property and powers from Rs. 25·13 lakhs to Rs. 27·35 lakhs, the largest item of increase being the revenue and fees from markets and slaughter-houses and from pawnshop licenses. Loans from Government to Mandalay amounting to Rs. 3·50 lakhs, and a loan of Rs. one lakh raised by Syriam from the Burma Oil Company, Limited, for a new jetty, increased the total of loans from Rs. 1·61 lakhs to Rs. 5 lakhs. The incidence of taxation per head of population fell from Rs. 2-15-7 to Rs. 2-14-8. The revenue from bazaar rents, licenses and slaughter-house fees represents in many instances the main source of income, and the revenue from water, lighting, latrine and conservancy taxes is often insufficient to meet the expenditure. In some towns slaughter-house fees and meat market rents declined owing to agitation against beef-eating. There was little progress in the replacement of the taxation of houses by frontage by the better system of taxation on rental values. Ordinary expenditure fell from Rs. 61·87 lakhs in 1921-22 to Rs. 56·69 lakhs. Expenditure on hospitals amounted to Rs. 9·50 lakhs, against Rs. 10·25 lakhs, and that on public health and convenience to Rs. 39·36 lakhs, against Rs. 42·06 lakhs in the previous year.

Rangoon Port Trust Fund.

159. The receipts of the Rangoon Port Trust amounted to Rs. 76·94 lakhs, and payments (including Rs. 2·75 lakhs transferred to reserve funds) to Rs. 68·68 lakhs, leaving a surplus on the year's working of Rs. 8·26 lakhs. Receipts showed an increase of Rs. 1·75 and payments an increase of Rs. 2·73 lakhs, as compared with those of the previous year. The increase in receipts was accounted for by an increase in the traffic over the trust's properties and in the number and tonnage of steamers entering the harbour. A revised schedule of charges was introduced on the 1st July 1922, providing except in the case of port due and river due, for an all-round increase in rates which had remained practically unchanged since 1913. The port and river dues were reduced in the course of the year. The increase in payments was mainly under the heads of salaries, municipal taxes (which are calculated at a percentage of revenue), labour, repairs, upkeep of vessels and interest. For the financing of capital works the trust obtained a loan of Rs. 50 lakhs from the rice control profits fund, repayable by half-yearly instalments over 20 years. There was also at the end of the year a bank overdraft of some Rs. 9 lakhs. The various reserve funds aggregated Rs. 54·08 lakhs, against Rs. 49·34 lakhs at the end of the previous year.

Rangoon Development Trust Fund.

160. The operations of the Rangoon Development Trust comprise two financially independent administrations, one the administration and development of the Government estate and the other the general development of the city. Apart from certain overhead administrative and establishment charges to be allocated between the two administrations, their finances are distinct. The revenues of the Government estate are derived mainly from rents ; and administration on business lines is therefore possible. General development, on the other hand, is at present financially dependent on outside sources of revenue, the terminal tax, the special stamp duty and the municipal contribution, which cannot be stimulated to produce increased returns by efficiency

of administration. A portion of the expenditure on general development has been allocated to the acquisition and development of the trust estate ; but up to the end of the year under review development had not proceeded sufficiently to produce any direct return by the sale of sites or otherwise. The gross revenues of the Government estate amounted to Rs. 12·88 lakhs in 1922-23, against Rs. 12·43 lakhs in the previous year, and after the deduction of administrative expenses, a sum of Rs. 5·85 lakhs was available for transfer to the capital account, against Rs. 4·95 lakhs in the previous year. The gross revenues of the fund for general development fell from Rs. 8·30 lakhs to Rs. 8·12 lakhs, and the nett sum available for transfer to the capital account from Rs. 7·18 lakhs to Rs. 7·02 lakhs. A loan of Rs. 10 lakhs was obtained at the close of the year from the rice control profits fund for general development. The expenditure of the trust included Rs. 5·79 lakhs on reclamation, Rs. 4·41 lakhs on communications, Rs. 4·33 lakhs on other equipment, and Rs. 3·02 lakhs on the acquisition of land. So far as can be foreseen, the resources at the disposal of the trust are adequate to secure the full development of Rangoon ; but in the present early stages of its working, some anticipation of annual revenues by means of loans is necessary for general development.

Other Local Funds.

161. The seven cantonment funds received Rs. 2·09 lakhs and spent Rs. 1·84 lakhs, against Rs. 2·06 lakhs and Rs. 2·09 lakhs in the previous year. All the funds were able to close accounts for the year with a credit balance, but in some cases only by reason of grants-in-aid from Government.

Port funds were maintained at Bassein, Moulmein, Akyab, Mergui, Tavoy and Kyaukpyu. There was an increase in the receipts of four of these funds, and an increase in the expenditure of three. The total receipts were Rs. 10·95 lakhs, against Rs. 8·52 lakhs, and the total expenditure Rs. 10·76 lakhs, against Rs 7·96 lakhs in 1921-22.

The receipts and expenditure of the Rangoon pilot fund were Rs. 7·57 lakhs and Rs. 7·14 lakhs respectively, against Rs. 6·90 lakhs and Rs. 6·51 lakhs in the previous year. The expenditure included a sum of Rs. 0·92 lakh spent on bringing the pilot vessel from England and effecting certain repairs at Rangoon. The aggregate receipts of the Akyab, Moulmein and Bassein pilot funds were Rs. 2·63 lakhs, against Rs. 1·61 lakhs in 1921-22. Expenditure increased by a few thousands to Rs. 1·93 lakhs. The closing balance of each fund was larger than at the end of the previous year.

The University of Rangoon fund opened with a balance of Rs. 2·83 lakhs. The total receipts and expenditure during the year amounted to Rs. 3·10 lakhs and Rs. 1·43 lakhs respectively. The receipts and expenditure of the Rangoon University College fund were Rs. 2·57 and Rs. 1·87 lakhs respectively.

The steam boiler inspection fund, whose income is derived mainly from inspection fees, received Rs. 1·42 lakhs and spent Rs. 1·39 lakhs during the year. In the previous year receipts totalled Rs. 1·19 lakhs, and expenditure Rs. 1·30 lakhs.

Paper Currency.

162. The average total active circulation of currency notes during the year 1922-23 was Rs. 22,79·23 lakhs, against Rs. 20,47·71 lakhs in

1921-22. Paper money continued to increase in popularity except in remote and hilly tracts, where hoarding by burial is fashionable. In only one township were notes reported to change hands at a discount, and steps were taken to remedy this. The two-and-a-half rupee note continued unpopular, owing to its resemblance to the one-rupee note, the percentage of the value of this denomination in circulation to the total circulation falling from ·22 to ·17. The ten-rupee note regained the popularity which it appeared to have lost in the preceding year.

CHAPTER VI.

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

REFERENCES—

Report on the Public Health Administration of Burma for the year 1922.

Triennial Report on Hospitals and Dispensaries in Burma for the years 1920 to 1922.

Report on the working of the Burma Government Medical School for the year 1922-23.

Report on the working of the Burma Pasteur Institute and Bacteriological Laboratory, Rangoon, for the year 1922-23.

Note on the Lunatic Asylums in Burma for the year 1922.

Triennial Report on Vaccination in Burma for the years 1920-21 to 1922-23.

Statistical Abstract for British India, Volume III.

Births and Deaths.

Area under Registration and Total Population.

163. The area and population dealt with in the report remained the same as in the previous year. A restricted system of registration of vital statistics, by means of tallies of coloured sticks, beads or bamboo splits was however introduced during the year in the backward and illiterate areas which were hitherto excluded. They were collected irregularly for a few months and were for the most part unreliable. They have therefore not been included in the report. The only parts of the province now where registration of vital statistics of any kind is not in force are Putao District and Khamti and Somra Tracts of the Upper Chindwin District.

There has been a slight adjustment in the rural and urban populations in the original registration area. Tharrawaddy was constituted a notified area from 1st January 1922. Minbya in Akyab, Sitkwin in Tharrawaddy, Myinmu in Sagaing and Myitkyina in the Frontier Division were placed under town committees from the 1st April, 1st July, 1st April and 1st October respectively.

Number of Births and Deaths.

164. The birth-rate of the province as a whole was 29·69. The number of births registered, 319,774, was 1,772 less than last year. There was a decrease of 1,291 male births and 481 female births. All the districts and most of the towns of Tenasserim and the North-West Border Divisions recorded a fall in the birth-rate, but many places in Arakan and Mandalay Divisions registered a rise. The delta districts of Henzada and Myaungmya also returned an increase in the number of births.

Kyauksè (42·57) had the highest birth-rate of any district in the province. Mandalay District came next with 41·92. Among Lower Burma districts Sandoway came first with 36·87 and Tavoy next with 34·43 while Pyapôn District (19·03) and Bassein District (19·97) had the lowest rates.

Urban Birth Rates.—The provincial urban birth-rate was 25·89. Among Lower Burma towns the highest rates were recorded by Kawkareik 36·28, Sandoway 34·02, Ngathainggyaung 33·58, Minhla 31·86, Danubyu 31·69, and Shwedaung 31·18, and in Upper Burma towns, Myitnge easily headed the list with a birth-rate of 65·72. Ye-u came next with a rate of 57·26 followed by Mandalay 45·17.

Very low rates were returned for Nattalin (12·25), Pyu (13·63), Syriam (14·41), Insein (14·96), Akyab (16·43), Tharrawaddy (17·66), Thayetmyo (17·92), Rangoon (18·09) and Kyaiklat (19·08).

The exceptionally low birth-rate of a number of towns is due either to a great disparity of the sexes or to an adventitious population who do not add to the birth-rate. The low birth-rate of towns like Nattalin, Pyu and Pyawbwè appears to be due almost entirely to non-registration of births.

Deaths.—The provincial death-rate was 22·23. There were actually 239,448 deaths registered in the province, 8,404 more than in 1921. Among rural areas Kyauksè 31·28 had the highest death-rate followed by Mandalay 27·83, Sandoway 27·63, Henzada 23·84 and Minbu 23·27.

Relatively low rates were returned by Myingyan 14·92, Amherst 15·54, Pyapôn 15·60, Thatôn 15·85.

Urban Deaths.—The death-rate of Upper Burma towns was 40·57 and for Lower Burma towns 37·07. Prome as usual headed the list with a ratio of 62·53. Mawlamyainggyun 58·87, and Pegu 57·70, came next.

Among Upper Burma towns, Pyawbwè headed the list with a ratio of 51·87. Magwe came next with 48·47 followed by Shwebo with 46·96 and Mandalay with a ratio of 45·41. In all these towns plague has been the chief cause of the heavy mortality.

In Lower Burma Syriam and in Upper Burma Ye-u had the lowest death-rates with 19·42 and 21·52 respectively.

Infantile Mortality Ratio.—The provincial infantile mortality rate for the year was 185·30 as against 172·06 in 1921.

The number of children that died under one year of age was 59,255, males 32,094, females 27,161. The ratio per thousand of the population of that age was 245·56 for males and 200·04 for females. Out of the total, 16 per cent. died before they were a week old, 32 per cent. died within the first month and 46 per cent. between the first and sixth month.

The rural infantile mortality rate for the province worked out at 174·49 as against 160·37 in 1921 and 177·92 in 1920. Relatively high rates were returned by the rural areas of Sandoway 261·12, Kyauksè 248·16, Shwebo 227·85, Pegu 225·26, Prome 220·40. The lowest rate of all areas was returned by Mergui, 83·65, while Amherst, Tavoy and Myingyan had the relatively low figures of 105·01, 105·95 and 107·80, respectively as in previous years.

Urban Infantile Mortality.—The infant mortality rate for all towns of the province was 284·72. The deaths of 8,931 infants were recorded.

The Burma Branch of the Indian Red Cross Society was constituted in December 1922. A delegation of the League of Red Cross Societies headed by Sir Claude Hill arrived in Rangoon on the 12th December 1922, and, at an informal meeting convened next day in the Secretariat, discussed the scheme of Red Cross peace-time work. A sub-committee on popular health education was immediately formed by the Burma Branch of the Red Cross Society with Dr. G. R. T. Ross, I.E.S., as the convener. The first meeting was held at the health office, Rangoon Corporation, on the 21st December and since then much useful work

has been done. Open air lectures on public health subjects are being given with the aid of a magic lantern ; slides dealing with public health are being exhibited at the cinemas ; leaflets, diagrams and health catechisms are being prepared for distribution. The campaign is at present confined to Rangoon, but the committee is prepared to help other agencies throughout the province which may undertake similar work. Health propaganda work in the districts was left to the St. John Ambulance Association.

Causes of Death.

165. The registered mortality from different causes in 1922 is compared with the figures for 1921 :—

Causes.	1922.	1921.
Cholera ...	5,047	3,791
Small-pox ...	1,439	987
Plague ...	7,282	4,403
Fevers ...	82,884	82,741
Dysentery and diarrhoea ...	8,940	9,728
Respiratory diseases ...	11,948	11,465
Suicide ...	172	152
Wounding or accident ...	1,935	2,025
Snake bite or killed by wild beasts	1,678	1,845
Rabies ...	189	173
All other causes ...	117,934	113,734
Total ...	239,448	231,044

The increase has mainly been in the three epidemic diseases—cholera, small-pox and plague,—and in all other causes.

Cholera.—Of the deaths from cholera 3,208 occurred in rural areas and 1,839 in urban areas. More than half the total occurred in the delta districts including Prome. Other districts returning heavy mortality were Mergui, Pegu, Thayetmyo and Tharrawaddy in Lower Burma and Myingyan, Magwe and Pakôkku in Upper Burma. The increase in small-pox is due to a large number of deaths reported from Akyab, Kyaukpyu, Tharrawaddy, Henzada and Magwe Districts which had only a few deaths last year. On the other hand Mandalay and Thatôn which had big outbreaks in 1921 had only some sporadic cases this year. About a quarter of the provincial deaths occurred in children under ten years. Of the total, 979 or 68 per cent. occurred in rural areas and the rest in towns. Most of the deaths in urban areas occurred in Akyab, Zigôn, Minhla and Henzada.

The outbreak in Akyab District steadily rose from January to June after which there was a gradual fall to a minimum in October. Minbya was the only township that escaped. Maungdaw returned two deaths. The outbreak in the Magwe District was extremely severe. The infection spread to the neighbouring districts of Minbu, Myingyan and Meiktila. Inoculation was done on a wholesale scale in these districts and this was responsible for the extent of the epidemic. In Tharrawaddy the disease was confined mainly to towns ; and only 23 deaths occurred in the rural areas. Henzada District reported 187 attacks and 67 deaths from 69 villages.

Plague.—Most of the deaths from plague occurred in towns, rural areas accounted for only 1,674 deaths. The first three and the last three months of the year were the periods of greatest prevalence. Rangoon had 1,402 deaths, Mandalay 917, Prome 315, Maymyo 221, Henzada 209, Bassein 186, Toungoo 162 and Shwebo 157. Of the rural areas, Meiktila suffered most with 572 deaths. Other districts returning a heavy mortality were Yamèthin, Prome, Mandalay, Insein and Pyapôn.

The total number of rats destroyed in the Province was 455,574, of which 408,785 were in Rangoon, 8,759 in Bassein, 8,011 in Pyapôn, 5,004 in Kyaiklat, 6,880 in Myaungmya, 5,023 in Syriam, 2,300 in Toungoo, 2,906 in Moulmein, and 4,046 in Mandalay, and the total number of inoculations performed was 67,410.

Fever.—Out of the total 239,448 deaths registered during the year, 34·6 per cent. were attributed to fever. It is impossible to estimate how much of this percentage was due to malaria, but it is probable that it was responsible for at least half. Akyab returned the highest fever ratio (15·32) of all districts. Tavoy came next with 14·27, and Sandoway followed with 12·81.

Cinchona Febrifuge Tablets.

166. The total outturn in the Central Jail of 4,566,971 five-grain and 1,597,034 one-grain tablets was greatly in excess of the previous year. In addition 76,959 four-grain tablets were manufactured. Issues to Treasury Officers and others amounted to 4,537,558 five-grain tablets, being an increase of 1,809,398 over last year ; and 1,508,800 one-grain tablets or a decrease of 2,037,200 on the figures of the previous year. The number of four-grain tablets issued was 12,000.

There was also a marked progress in sales during the year, the total quantity sold having amounted to 23,465,590 grains, an increase of 2,683,590 grains on the sales in 1921. Twenty-seven out of 43 treasury districts participated in this increase. Free distribution was made to the extent of 436,000 grains.

The alkaloid content of the tablets was frequently checked by the Chemical Examiner, Burma. In one case the tablets were under weight, but this was immediately set right.

The two small tablet machines worked by hand became unserviceable and the Allen & Hanbury's rotary tablet machine is wearing out and will soon be unable to cope with the increasing demands. Steps are being taken for the purchase of a new power-driven machine, on receipt of which the old machine will be retained as a stand-by for light work.

Emigration and Immigration.

167. Excluding Bassein, for which no returns were received, immigrants through ports of Burma numbered 360,038 as compared with 331,992 in 1921. Emigrants numbered 310,331 against 303,806 of last year. The net increase in population by the balance of immigration was 49,707. Rangoon, Kyaukpyu and Tavoy had fewer emigrants and more immigrants than in 1921 while the reverse was the case at Moulmein. In Akyab both immigrants and emigrants were far in excess (13,109 and 6,278 respectively) of those of the previous year ; and there were 4,093 more emigrants than immigrants in Akyab, and 873 in Moulmein. On the other hand 54,208 more persons arrived in Rangoon than embarked at the port.

Medical Relief.

Hospitals and Dispensaries.

168. At the close of the year under review, 284 hospitals and dispensaries remained open against 278 during the previous year. Five were closed and eleven were opened during the year 1922. The number of travelling dispensaries remained the same. As the travelling dispensaries have done excellent work, and are the only means by which the people living in the interior of the country distant from stationary hospitals can be reached for medical relief, proposals for establishing more travelling dispensaries are under consideration. The re-distribution with a view to reducing the number of smaller hospitals referred to in the report for 1921-22 has been carried out by sending trained military police ward orderlies to replace Sub-Assistant Surgeons in several of the outpost hospitals in the Myitkyina and Bhamo Districts. Eight Burman *se-sayas* are now undergoing training at Mandalay in simple medicine and surgery. Their training will be completed in November. They are paid a conveyance allowance of Rs. 20 per mensem each.

Attendance and Treatment.

169. Excepting those treated in military police and railway institutions, 1,916,550 patients were treated in state public, local fund and private-aided institutions, of whom 82,787 were in-patients. The number of patients attending hospitals would have been greater had the exorbitant price of santonine not prevented its issue to people who have the greatest faith in this drug for the treatment of worms. Six thousand five hundred and ten beds were available. The death-rate among in-door patients has remained constant for the last two years. The more important ailments for which patients sought in-door hospital relief are malaria, plague, influenza, pneumonia, small-pox, tubercle of lungs, diseases of stomach and intestines, injuries, dysentery, cholera. Among infectious diseases plague assumed a more virulent form during the year, and death in most cases might have been prevented had the patients resorted early to proper treatment or had their friends sought that course ; they were usually brought to the hospital when past all human efforts. Malaria, diseases of the digestive, respiratory and cutaneous systems, injuries, diseases of the eye and ear, rheumatism and venereal diseases are the chief diseases for which out-door relief was sought. It is regrettable that venereal and tubercular diseases show a tendency to increase ; 62,982 operations were performed—a slight increase over last year's figure—and the death-rate has assumed a more normal aspect. It is gratifying to note that the Burmese people are seeking the benefits derivable from western systems of treatment in increasing numbers. The number of patients treated in military police and railway institutions during the year amounted to 209,234.

Expenditure and General.

170. The expenditure on medical relief amounted to over 32 lakhs against 28 in 1921. The difference is being mainly borne by the provincial funds and more than half of this expenditure is non-recurring. The cost against establishment has increased owing to the increase in the rates of pay of establishment and there was a marked increase in the amount of subscriptions. The hospital finance scheme has been sanctioned with effect from the 1st April 1923 and 62 institutions have accepted the scheme. A good deal remains to be done for the smooth working of the scheme.

Construction.—The year appears to be an eventful one in having seen the completion of many hospital buildings. The female section of the new Rangoon lunatic asylum, has been completed and its sanitary arrangements and water supply are nearing completion. The building of the second part of the project is under consideration. The maternity ward at Maymyo has been completed with many improvements to the Civil Hospital, Maymyo. Hot and cold water supply is being laid on and the work of electrification is in process of being taken on. Materials are ready and stocked near site for construction of a new civil hospital at Bhamo, and work is progressing on Lim Chin Tsong's Hospital, Pegu, civil hospitals at Thabaung and Labutta in the Bassein and Myaungmya Districts, and servants' quarters in the canal site area of the General Hospital, Rangoon. Maternity wards have been erected mostly by private charity at Meiktila, Kyauksè, Tharrawaddy and Myingyan and one is under construction at Taunggyi. The construction of a civil hospital and subsidiary buildings and followers' quarters at Falam and a new civil hospital at Tiddim are well in hand. The new hospital at Victoria Point has been completed and occupied. Improvements to Indian and Burman military police officers' wards at Mandalay, Myitkyina, Bhamo, Mônywa and Taunggyi have been completed. The construction of quarters for Civil Surgeons, Mandalay and Akyab, are progressing satisfactorily and that for the Civil Surgeon, Mônywa, has been completed and occupied. Plans and estimates have been sanctioned for construction of Civil Surgeons' quarters at Henzada, Kyaukpyu and Prome. Plans and estimate are ready for a surgical ward and operation theatre at Myaungmya, nurses' quarters in the canal area for the General Hospital nurses, a new contagious diseases hospital, a home for incurables, a physiological laboratory, Rangoon, and the reconstruction of the Dufferin Hospital, Rangoon. The surgical ward at Akyab has been completed and occupied. Although plans and estimate have been prepared for the construction of matron's and nurses' quarters and private wards at Akyab and though funds have been provided in part in the budget for these works, the proposal has not been finally approved yet owing to a difference of opinion in regard to the plans. Besides the above, many more improvements have been carried out to many of the hospitals and residential buildings throughout the province from the budget grant in the Public Works Department budget for minor works.

Establishment.—The number of Indian Medical Service officers on the rolls at the close of 1922 was 31 of whom 23 were on duty and 8 on leave against a sanctioned cadre of 42 which includes a leave reserve of 7. Orders have been received for the reservation of 52 posts in Burma including a leave and study reserve of 11 for officers of the Indian Medical Service. The question of strengthening the staff of the General Hospital, Rangoon, in order to provide for the professorial staff of the Medical Faculty of the University of Rangoon is being examined and proposals have been submitted. The Uncovenanted Medical Service has disappeared and several Military Assistant Surgeons who occupied the posts of permanent Civil Surgeoncies were superannuated during the period of report. The number of Assistant Surgeons remained practically the same and the question of absorbing a few temporary Assistant Surgeons into existing vacancies is under consideration. The course for the M.B. degree commenced this year with 28 students, of whom 5 are females. The need for a maternity hospital for the training of medical students in midwifery and gynæcology has become an urgent necessity. There are 421 Sub-Assistant Surgeons on the rolls. In spite of many

resignations, the surplus still remains and applications are pouring in for appointments.

Burma Government Medical School, Rangoon.—The Burma Government Medical School continues to grow steadily. There were 173 students on the rolls, one half of them belonging to the indigenous races of Burma, the other half being drawn chiefly from the domiciled community. The discipline and character of the school have been very good throughout the year. It was found necessary owing to the number of Sub-Assistant Surgeons being in excess to reduce the number of stipends offered to candidates desirous of undergoing training at the Medical School from 25 to 10 and to increase the number of special private stipends of Rs. 15 per mensem each from 15 to 20.

Pasteur Institute and Bacteriological Laboratory.

171. The work of this institution, both anti-rabic and bacteriological, has increased in popularity though the percentage of Burmese patients treated remained the same as last year. 3,016 microbiological and histological examinations were made. 450 autogenous vaccines were prepared and antisera issued from stock maintained. Special research work in connection with disease "Makawlam" in Burma that seems to be new is very desirable. The proposal to depute the Assistant Director of the Pasteur Institute to the Shan States to investigate the causation of this special disease is under consideration. On the recommendation of the Director, Pasteur Institute, the Medical Officer of the St. John's Leper Asylum, Mandalay, was deputed to Calcutta for training in the treatment of leprosy under Dr. Muir at the School of Tropical Medicine.

Lunatic Asylums.

172. The average number of lunatics in both Rangoon and Minbu asylums rose to 931 from 871 in 1921. Overcrowding occurred in the Rangoon Lunatic Asylum but not in Minbu. The death-rate fell from 7·74 in 1921 to 7·29 this year. No epidemics broke out in either of the asylums.

Civil Sanitary Works.

Principal Works and Expenditure.

173. No meetings of divisional sanitary boards were held till the 24th July when divisional boards were superseded by the Provincial Public Health Board. This Board consists of five ex-officio members and three members nominated by the Local Government. The functions of the Board are both advisory and administrative.

There are also two standing committees of the Board :—

(1) Public Health Projects Standing Committee.
(2) Public Health Standing Committee.

There were three meetings of the Board during the year—on 4th October, 7th October and 8th November 1922.

At the first meeting rules for the working of the Board were framed. At the second meeting it was agreed—

(i) to earmark but not yet to allot Rs. 50,000 for the Mandalay water-supply ;
(ii) to grant Rs. 35,000 for the lay-out of Moulmein civil station ;
(iii) to grant one lakh towards the Myingyan water-supply scheme and to guarantee a further grant during the next financial year ; also to allot in the ensuing year a grant of half the cost of the Myingyan drainage scheme subject to a maximum of Rs. 32,500.

Other projects, *e.g.* Mergui lay-out, Kyaiklat water-supply, Mawlaik conservancy, Rangoon Port Health Hospital and Dispensary were also discussed and referred to sub-committees, or otherwise postponed for further consideration. A sum of Rs. 5,000 was sanctioned for malarial survey of Katha and Kawlin.

At the third meeting the Board resolved—

(i) to recommend to Government the constitution of an authority consisting of representatives of the Local Government; Public Health Board ; Port Commissioners ; municipality ; shipping firms ; and general public—to collect funds to erect and maintain a Port Health Observation Ward and Dispensary pending orders from the Government of India for the formation of a Port Health authority, and to grant to the authority on certain conditions a sum of one lakh towards the funds ;

(ii) to reduce from one lakh to Rs. 20,000 the amount earmarked for investigation of Kyaiklat water-supply ;

(iii) to transfer Rs. 1,29,000 required for the Mergui lay-out scheme to the Public Works Department budget ;

(iv) to grant Rs. 13,397 towards the Mawlaik conservancy scheme.

Standing Committee No. 2 held a meeting on 25th October 1922 to consider in detail the proposal for the construction of a Port Health Station Hospital and Dispensary.

The other standing committee No. 1 held a meeting on 27th November 1922 to consider the measures for improving the water-supply system of Kyaiklat municipality.

Six-inch tube wells were sunk to a depth of 114 feet at Payagyi (for Dalla water-supply) and to a depth of 102 feet at Magwe, and both were found successful. Work in connection with the sinking of similar wells at Kyauktan and Amherst is progressing and estimates were prepared for wells at Daiku, Allanmyo and Kyaikto. In Tharrawaddy jail one such well was sunk. The estimate for the Ashford tube well at Bassein was revised. In the new lunatic asylum and the Tiger Ally estate, tube wells were sunk, reservoirs erected and distributing mains were laid at a cost each of nearly a lakh of rupees. A scheme is ready for the water-supply of Pyinmana Forest School from an infiltration gallery.

Schemes for the sewerage and sewage disposal of the new lunatic asylum, Tiger Ally estate and the Agricultural College, Mandalay, are progressing, and drainage works are awaiting completion for Pyapôn, Pyu, Pegu, Kanyutkwin, Kyaiklat, Bassein, Mergui, Myanaung, Labutta, Kyauktan and Insein.

Vaccination.

Establishment.

174. The number of District Superintendents remained the same as last year, but the Sub-Assistant Surgeons in receipt of vaccination allowance were 31 instead of 35 and the vaccination staff decreased by three supervisors of vaccination, two head vaccinators and one vaccinator. Sanction was accorded to the increase of the permanent vaccination staff by one supervisor of vaccination and two vaccinators in Myingyan District and one vaccinator in Magwe District, but effect was given only in Magwe.

One supervisor of vaccination died, one resigned and two were dismissed. Eight district vaccinators were either removed or dismissed from the service.

Number of Operations.

175. The total number of persons vaccinated was 702,321 against 655,829 in 1921-22. Of this number 693,092 were performed by special staff, 4,630 by dispensary staff and 4,599 by other agencies. The total number of operations performed (exclusive of dispensary vaccination work) was 521,018 primary and 176,811 revaccinations against 491,359 and 158,781 respectively in 1921-22. There was thus increase in both primary and revaccination operations. Including the 4,630 vaccinations performed in dispensaries the total operations for the province in 1922-23 amounted to 702,459. Of these 693,230 were returned as the output of 336 vaccinators (2,063 per head) employed during the year. All the districts in Arakan and Rangoon Divisions returned an excess in both primary and revaccinations. Pegu Division recorded a fall in every district in primary vaccination while there was an excess in revaccination in all districts (except Prome), notably in Tharrawaddy which returned an excess of 6,501 over last year's figure 4,475. Irrawaddy Division generally showed an increase in primary and revaccinations, the only districts which showed a decline being Bassein (primary) and Myaungmya (revaccination). The reason for Bassein's returning a very low figure for primary operations for many years is stated by the Civil Surgeon to be chiefly due to the absence of small-pox in Thabaung, Ngaputaw and Kyaunggôn Townships.

In Tenasserim Division, Salween, Tavoy, and Mergui Districts returned a slight increase while Thatôn and Amherst showed a decrease in primary operations. All districts except Salween returned a decrease in revaccination.

In North-West Border Division, all districts except Pakôkku and Lower Chindwin returned an increase in primary vaccination, while all districts except Upper Chindwin showed a decrease in revaccination. The total increase in primary vaccination in the division was 4,050 and total decrease in revaccination 10,099. In Shwebo, Sagaing and Lower Chindwin Districts the activities of the village *Wunthanu athins* were said to be the cause of the difficulty experienced in getting together as large a number of children for vaccination as in the past. In spite of antagonistic influences the common sense and spirit of co-operation of the people in anti-epidemic measures prevailed.

In Mandalay Division there was an increase in primary operations in all the districts except Meiktila and Yamèthin Districts, the total number being 94,735 against 79,218 in 1921-22. There was also an increase in revaccination in Mandalay, Myingyan, Magwe and Minbu Districts ; the highest increase was recorded in Magwe District 10,770 against 915 in 1921-22 and this was due to a severe outbreak of small-pox. The decline in both primary and revaccination in Meiktila District was due to the adverse influence of *Wunthanu* associations.

In North-East Frontier Division, all districts, except Myitkyina and Northern Shan States, returned an increase in primary operations, the total being 42,240 against 39,544 in 1921-22 ; but in revaccination there was a decrease of 852. The Northern Shan States recorded 391 revaccination operations against 1,474 in the previous year, while the Southern Shan States recorded 1,206 against 574 in 1921-22.

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In primary vaccination 27 districts returned an increase and 14 a decrease, while in revaccination 23 districts returned an increase and 18 a decrease. Successful primary operations totalled 488,208 and successful revaccinations 77,855 against 457,983 and 75,786 respectively in 1921-22. The percentages of successful cases in which results were known were 98·10 (in primary vaccination) and 53·68 (in revaccination) against 98·07 and 58·46 respectively in 1921-22. In the case of primary operations the highest percentage success was returned by Rangoon 99·48, Insein 99·54, Hanthawaddy 99·40, Tharrawaddy 99·88, Pegu 99·66, Toungoo 99·48, Henzada 99·64, Ma-ubin 99·72, Pyapôn 99·93, Thatôn 99·86, Tavoy 99·58, Sagaing 99·51, Lower Chindwin 99·70, Mandalay 99·53, Kyauksè 99·81, Meiktila 99·99, Magwe 99·01, and Putao 100·00. The highest percentage of successful revaccination was returned by Akyab 71·68, Sagaing 70·34, Hill District of Arakan 84·88, Tharrawaddy 70·64, Lower Chindwin 81·91, Upper Chindwin 86·30, Kyauksè 91·44, Putao 74·59 and Northern Shan States 79·49.

Of the 149,542 children under one year successfully vaccinated, 123,450 were in rural areas and 26,092 in urban areas. In towns the total number of persons that received primary vaccination was 42,342 and those revaccinated numbered 51,367, the percentages of success being 98·95 and 57·26 respectively.

The total number of persons vaccinated at dispensaries amounted to 4,630 against 5,810 in 1921-22. The decrease was both in primary (718) and revaccination (462). Of primary vaccinations 99·32 per cent. were reported successful and of revaccinations, 76·99. The districts of Tharrawaddy, Ma-ubin, Bassein, Pakôkku, Upper Chindwin, Bhamo, Myitkyinà and Northern Shan States returned a large number of dispensary vaccinations.

In 36 jails 2,179 primary operations and 28,919 revaccinations were performed. The ratio of success was 63 per cent. for primary and 45 per cent. for revaccination.

Private practitioners performed 1,007 primary and 3,592 revaccinations with a ratio of success of 99·30 and 51·72 respectively.

Of the total of 702,321 persons vaccinated, Civil Surgeons and Health Officers inspected the results of 43,929 or 8·39 per cent. primary and 12,140 or 6·80 per cent. revaccination cases, while the supervisors of vaccination inspected 275,093 or 52·52 per cent. primary and 74,851 or 41·92 per cent. revaccination cases.

Vaccine Depot, Meiktila.

176. The total number of calves inoculated was 321 as compared with 305 in 1921-22. The average yield per successfully inoculated calf was 491·3 grains as against 446·9 in the preceding year and the number of doses issued from the depôt totalled 956,018 against 899,460. The net expenditure of the depôt was Rs. 24,706, being Rs. 3,930 less than in the previous year. The cost of manufacture of each dose of lymph was 4·96 pies against 5·85 pies in 1921-22. No supervisor of vaccination was trained during the year pending the formulation of a scheme for a Subordinate Public Health Service. Seventy-eight vaccinators were trained at the depôt as compared with 71 of the previous year.

In the vaccine depôt under the management of the Corporation of Rangoon 44,840 grains of vaccine paste were manufactured from 52 inoculated calves as compared with 29,336 grains from 62 calves in 1921-22, the average yield per calf being 516·92 grains against 468·32 grains in the preceding year.

177. The total cost of the Vaccination Department during the year 1922-23 amounted to Rs. 3,24,782 of which Rs. 2,08,482 was towards the pay of the establishment, Rs. 23,669 towards contingencies and Rs. 92,631 towards travelling allowances. Provincial funds bore Rs. 1,30,963, local funds Rs. 1,50,617, municipal funds Rs. 37,402 and native states Rs. 5,800. The average cost per successful case was Re. 0-9-2 against Re. 0-9-7 in 1921-22 and Re. 0-7-9 in 1920-21.

Expenditure.

CHAPTER VII.

INSTRUCTION.

REFERENCES—

Annual Report on Public Instruction in Burma for the year 1922-23.

Statistical Abstract for British India, Volumes IV and V.

General System of Public Instruction.

For information on this subject reference should be made to paragraphs 259 to 285 of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1921-22.

Educational Progress.

General progress and educational measures.

178. With the introduction of the reformed constitution on the 2nd January 1923, education became a transferred subject; and a few days later the Hon'ble U Maung Gyee took the oath as first Minister for Education. About the same time the divisional boards, which had held control of vernacular education, were dissolved, their functions being transferred to district school boards, which are offshoots of the district councils formed under the Rural Self-Government Act.

The year under review was one of steady progress rather than sensational reforms. Among the more important and interesting events, apart from the formation of the school boards, may be mentioned a conference on Chin education, held to settle knotty questions of script and dialect, the transfer of the Government School of Engineering at Insein from the control of the Education Department to that of the Development Commissioner and a governing body, the provincialization of state scholarships, the introduction of English teaching in vernacular schools, the establishment of a provident fund for teachers, and the introduction of a scheme for the medical inspection of English and Anglo-vernacular schools. The pay of Sub-Inspectors of Schools, of technical and manual teachers, and of the staff of the Government Anglo-vernacular High School at Rangoon was revised.

Number of schools and scholars and expenditure.

179. There was 6,684 public schools in Burma attended by 344,690 pupils, against 7,179 schools with 345,665 pupils in 1921-22. The estimated number of pupils in unrecognized institutions also declined, so that in all there were some 4,000 fewer pupils than in the previous year. In fact, however, the year was one of exceptional progress in all the higher branches of education. Attendance at the University increased by over 200. The number of English-teaching secondary schools increased from 193 to 203 and their attendance from 33,803 to 39,269. Vernacular secondary schools likewise increased in number from 1,264 to 1,307 and their attendance from

98,918 to 104,936. Even upper primary schools, though their number and attendance decreased, showed an increase in upper primary standards. It was entirely in lower primary classes that decline took place ; and it was due to the working of the salary-grant system, which led to the disregistration of the smaller and less efficient primary schools. This was the continuation, perhaps the conclusion, of a process which during the last five years has caused a decrease of nearly 48,000 pupils in public schools. One of the most satisfactory features of the statistics was an increase of over 4,000 in the number of girls under instruction. The monastic schools are reported to be gradually surmounting their prejudice against the admission of girls.

The total recorded expenditure on education in 1922-23 was Rs. 1,16·50 lakhs, an increase of nearly Rs. 15 lakhs on the figures of the previous year. The largest proportionate contribution towards this increase was one of Rs. 3½ lakhs in the expenditure of private persons and bodies. Public funds, that is provincial, municipal and district funds taken together, showed an increase of Rs. 9·64 lakhs, or nearly one-seventh. Fees rose from Rs. 21·44 to Rs. 23·12. The figures suggest that while the boycott trouble of the past few years is now definitely over, considerable numbers of pupils at the primary stage have been diverted to unrecognized schools. The average cost of educating each pupil was Rs. 22·3, against Rs. 19·3 in the previous year. In colleges the average cost decreased slightly to Rs. 701·9 ; but the rapid development of university education is shown by the fact that this was more than double the average cost in 1917-18. The average cost in secondary schools was Rs. 35·9, in upper primary schools Rs. 7·7, and in lower primary schools Rs. 6·9. The average expenditure on education per head of population was Rs. 0-14-1, against Rs. 0-12-4 in 1921-22.

Primary Education.

180. In vernacular schools there was a loss of 395 schools and 4,294 pupils. Lay schools, though fewer in number, increased by over 2,000 in attendance, the average per school rising from 49 to 51. Monastic schools on the other hand decreased in number by 296 and in attendance by 6,739. Attendance at recognized monastic schools rose from 43 to 46 per school, while that of disregistered schools appears to have been about 20 only. The salary-grant system has had the effect of removing a large number of small and inefficient schools, lay as well as monastic, from the list of recognised institutions. It was estimated that in Burma only about one-third of the children of school-going age were attending a school of any kind, recognised or private. The total of all pupils under instruction in the primary stage was 307,627, against 309,207 in the previous year. The only change of importance in the primary school curriculum was the introduction of English as an optional subject in the vernacular primary standards at the end of the year. Passes by the vernacular standards showed little change. In Anglo-vernacular and English schools, on the other hand, there was a serious but unexplained decline.

Secondary Education.

181. There was an increase in the number of pupils in the lower primary stages of vernacular secondary schools, in spite of the decline in primary schools ; while in the middle and high stages the number of pupils rose from 10,840 to 10,976 and from 97 to 153 respectively. The great majority of the latter were intending teachers. In Anglo-vernacular secondary schools, though

the number of schools rose by 5 only, the attendance increased by over 4,000. The increase was distributed over all stages of instruction, and was evidently due to the return of boycotters. English schools showed no variation of importance.

Collegiate Education.

182. The Rangoon University made good progress during the year. Recovery from the boycott was numerically complete, and the colleges reached the limit of their capacity ; but one result of the boycott remained in the fall of the proportion of Burmese students at University College to 45 per cent. of the whole, against 70 per cent. in 1915-16. The total number of students was 741, against 515 in 1921-22. But of this total 460 were at the intermediate stage, and only 198 in the degree stage. The remaining 83 were taking special courses. Ordinary degrees were conferred during the year as follows :—B.A., 38 ; B.Sc., 16 ; B.L., 16.

There was a serious decline in the number of candidates for the Patamabyan examination, owing doubtless to political pressure. Only 605 appeared and 282 passed, against 1,573 entries and 680 passes in the previous year. The numbers for the final examination, however, showed only a small decrease.

The number of students at the Burma Government Medical School continued to increase. The total attendance, including new admissions, was 223. Of these 31 passed out qualified and 175 remained at the end of the year, the rest dropping out for various reasons. Additions were made to the laboratories, and the hostel accommodation was extended.

Forty-five students attended the Veterinary School at Insein during the year. Toward the end of the year a committee was appointed to consider the revision of the curriculum, the strengthening of the staff, and the improvement of the accommodation.

Good progress was made with the buildings for the Agricultural College at Mandalay, but it was not yet ready for the inception of the courses.

Technical Education.

183. At the Government Engineering Institute the number of students at the beginning of the year was only 31, of whom seven left almost at once. Twenty-five new students for mechanical engineering, and 39 for civil engineering, were admitted. Eighty-three students appeared for examination, and 59 were promoted. A considerable amount of work on enlargement or improvement of the buildings was done, at a cost of Rs. 1·70 lakhs. There was an attendance of 136 at evening classes held by the Principal in Rangoon.

The Saunders Weaving Institute at Amarapura continued to make progress. The actual attendance was only 45, but the Institute exerts an influence beyond its borders.

The number of commercial schools rose from 10 to 11, but the attendance fell from 895 to 798. These form a very large majority of the total number of students receiving technical instruction in Burma in schools specially established for the purpose. The Government accountancy classes in book-keeping, commercial correspondence and general business knowledge continued during the year in Rangoon. The instructors are chartered accountants and the students mostly employees of Rangoon firms.

The number of Government survey schools remained the same, namely 17. Admissions continued to decrease. As the supply of recruits for the Land Records Department is in excess of the demand, it was decided to close thirteen of the survey schools at the end of the year, and to retain only those at Moulmein, Bassein, Ma-ubin and Minbu.

The King Edward Memorial Industrial School at Akyab expired during the year, the lesson of its failure being that technical education must follow, not precede, the organization of industries.

Other schools teaching technical subjects are classed with ordinary Anglo-vernacular schools. The number of passes by school children in technical subjects was as follows :—Weaving, 99 ; lace-making, 152 ; needle work, 12,849 ; slöjd, 4,109.

During the year four state scholars were selected by the Local Government on the advice of the Provincial State Scholarship Advisory Board. In one case, however, it was found impossible to make acceptable arrangements for training in time, and ultimately only three scholarships were awarded, one for agricultural chemistry, one for education, and the third for oil-winning.

Training Schools.

184. The number of normal schools remained the same. Government provides four institutions for men, to which women are also admitted, and one for women only ; other agencies maintain two for men and five for women. The total number of teachers under training in these schools showed an increase of men from 267 to 286 and of women from 189 to 230. The number who passed the examination was 81 for the Anglo-vernacular certificate, 36 for the Anglo-vernacular kindergarten certificate, and 132 for the vernacular certificate, increases of 15, 20 and 29 respectively. The Government Normal School for Women at Rangoon survived the period of depletion necessarily following the abolition of higher and primary grade courses. The numbers under training rose from 7 to 22.

The number of elementary training classes increased from 58 to 63, 49 for men and 14 for women. The pupils under training increased by 157, from 845 to 1,002, while the number who qualified for certificates rose from 731 to 815.

Monastic training classes were opened in 1921 at Mandalay and Moulmein, a branch of the latter being afterwards established at Paung in the Thatôn District. Reports showed that useful work was being done. During the year four students at Moulmein and seven at Mandalay completed their training. The experiment is costly and its success depends on the subsequent careers of the students. Of those who have passed up to the present, 19 are teaching in monastic schools, 2 have become laymen and have established schools of their own, while 6 are not employed at all.

English Schools.

185. Burma is the only province where English education is a transferred subject, and the only province where it has been placed on the same footing as that of other races. No limit is prescribed to the admission of non-Europeans to English schools except sufficient knowledge of English to profit by the course ; and consequently schools exclusively European no longer exist. Owing to the opportunities for learning English, the schools are attractive to other races ; and there is some danger that if the process of dilution continues the English schools may lose the very qualities which constitute their attraction. There were during the year under review 35 English

schools with 5,619 European and 1,115 other pupils. The proportion of non-European pupils was as high as one-third of the whole in certain schools in Rangoon ; but in the four hill schools, three at Maymyo and one at Thandaung, it was very small. There were in all 6,195 European pupils in recognized schools, 576 being in non-European schools. Although many European or Anglo-Indian boys are sent to school in India, the number of boys under instruction in Burma exceeds that of girls in all stages except the primary, indicating a tendency to withdraw girls from school at an unduly early age.

Education of Mahomedans and Special Classes.

186. The returns for Mahomedan schools showed under public institutions a loss of four lower primary schools with 185 pupils and of four secondary schools with 579 pupils ; and an increase of five upper primary schools with 286 pupils. Private institutions increased by 7 schools and 449 pupils. Recognized vernacular schools numbered 151 with 8,344 pupils, and elementary schools, teaching the Koran only, 101 with 3,686. The total number of Mohomedan schools was 258 with 12,648 pupils, practically the same figures as in the previous year. There were 7,528 pupils in other than Mahomedan schools, mostly Zerbadis. The number of Mahomedan girls under instruction in public institutions was 4,078, against 4,131 in 1921-22. The education of girls is more backward in Arakan, owing to the strictness of the purdah system there, than elsewhere. An impediment to Mahomedan education in Burma is the fashion which dictates that Urdu shall be the language of instruction, even though the pupil's mother-tongue be Bengali, Arakanese or Burmese.

Progress was shown by all classes of Karen schools. The thirteen Anglo-vernacular schools increased in attendance from 3,659 to 4,225 ; recognized vernacular schools increased in number from 1,044 to 1,100 and in attendance from 31,415 to 34,334 ; and unrecognized schools from 126 to 132 with an addition of about 300 pupils.

The Chinese had 15,700 children in schools of all kinds, against 14,437 in the previous year. The figure represents about 10 per cent. of the whole Chinese population. The Chinese establish a school wherever they have settled in any numbers ; but they seldom seek Government aid or recognition. There were seven recognized Anglo-vernacular schools, conducted by missions, but only one recognized vernacular school.

The total number of Shans in schools of all kinds increased by 500 to 14,811, but only about one-third of these were in recognized schools specially intended for that race. There were only three recognized vernacular schools under public management ; those under private management numbered 123 with 4,427 pupils, a loss of 27 schools and over 300 pupils. The one Government Anglo-vernacular school, the school for the sons of Shan Chiefs at Taunggyi, was well reported on ; but the apathy of the Shans generally towards education continued as before.

There were only 10,521 Talaings in schools of all kinds, or about 3 per cent of the total Talaing population. An increase of nearly 800 pupils in purely Talaing schools, however, was remarkable, as indicating a growing preference for Talaing as against Burmese schools. There are signs of a reviving nationalism among the Talaings taking the form of a desire to preserve the national language.

Except for two Punjabi and one Bengali Anglo-vernacular school, Indian education other than Mahomedan is confined to Tamils and Telugus. These had 16 Anglo-vernacular schools with 3,722 pupils. Recognized vernacular schools numbered 59 with 3,032 pupils, two-thirds of the total being in Rangoon.

Of the 300,000 Chins of various tribes, only 2,351 received education. There were four Government vernacular schools for this race in the Chin Hills, with an attendance of 263; while two aided Anglo-vernacular and 37 aided vernacular schools gave instruction to 1,457 pupils. The Chins are backward from lack of opportunity rather than from nature.

Kachins under instruction numbered only 1,149 out of a population of 146,845. There were four Government vernacular schools, and 34 recognized vernacular schools.

Female Education.

187. The total of girls under instruction, including those in private schools, was 128,280, or over 4,000 more than in the previous year. This total was nearly double that of 15 years before; but it still represents less than 2 per cent. of the female population. Five out of every six girls at school were in the lower primary stage. In this stage the attendance actually decreased by over 2,000. In secondary schools, on the other hand, there was an increase of 4,203; and the number of girls in colleges rose from 56 to 87. The rapidity of increase in the number of girls in the middle and collegiate stages, as compared with those in the primary stage, appears to indicate real progress. In vernacular lay schools throughout the province girls form about one-third of the total number of pupils: and monastic schools also show a growing tendency to admit girls, especially in Upper Burma.

Fifteen women took the degree examination and 11 passed, against 5 in 1921-22. In the high school examinations there was a considerable increase in the number of candidates, but a fall in the percentage of passes. In the Anglo-vernacular middle school examination 338 passed, against 161 in 1922.

Insein Reformatory School.

188. The average number of inmates in the Reformatory School was 129, against 116 in the preceding year. Technical instruction continued to be provided. The school received good reports from inspectors and examiners. The conduct of the pupils was satisfactory.

Literature and the Press.

Publications Registered.

189. The number of publications registered fell from 232 in 1921 to 178 in 1922. Of these 94 were in Burmese, 29 in Pali-Burmese, 17 in Tamil, 15 in English, seven in Sgaw-Karen, six in Anglo-Burmese, three in Telugu and one each in Anglo-Pwo-Karen, Anglo-Tamil, Chin, Lisu, Pwo-Karen, Talaing and Tamil-English. Religious works numbered 59 (or one-third of the total) against 89 in 1921: fiction fell from 41 to 10 (three novels in Tamil and seven in Burmese) and drama from 12 to *nil*. Seven were definitely classed as political, of which one (the only English publication so classed) represented the views of the University boycotters, five others (in Burmese) advocated constitutional methods of political advance, and one

was definitely conservative. Historical works rose from two to 15 and poetry from nine to 15, but law books fell from four to two and miscellaneous from 41 to 39, the last heading covering ready reckoners, lists of telegraph offices, rules of associations and memorandum and articles of association of companies. Many of the religious publications were intended "for free distribution" and the life of Buddha was the most popular subject, with rules for meditation and the attainment of sainthood next. A catechism and hymn book for the Lisus in Yünnan, a translation of Ezekiel into Talaing, homilies from Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges and Ruth into Sgaw-Karen, a hymn and tune work in Burmese indicated some of the missionary activities. Incantations to ward off the influence of evil spirits and advice on the treatment of bewitched patients were published. A second edition of the history of the Alaungpaya dynasty by Maung Tin, K.S.M., was published. The falling off in number of publications coincided with a growing interest in newspapers and public affairs.

Presses, Newspapers and Periodicals.

190. The number of presses at work in 1922-23 including the three Government presses at Rangoon and Maymyo rose by 30 to 272, of which 124 were in Rangoon and 55 in Mandalay. Thirty-two new presses were opened (ten in Rangoon and seven in Mandalay) and two were closed. The number of newspapers fell from 65 to 58; eight new ventures were published, twelve were discontinued and three were reclassified as periodicals: of the 58 Rangoon had 48. The number of daily papers was unaltered at 18, 9 in Burmese, 6 in English, 2 in Chinese and 1 in Tamil. Of the papers other than daily, 15 were in Burmese and 13 English. The number of periodicals rose from 109 to 116 (101 in Rangoon); 22 were new, 17 were discontinued, 1 was not published and 3 were changed from the newspaper to the periodical class. Excluding Government publications, 27 were in Burmese, 17 in English, 3 in Anglo-Burmese, 2 in Tamil and 1 in Sgaw-Karen.

Literary Societies.

See paragraph 299 of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1921-22.

Rangoon Societies.

191. The Rangoon Literary Society which has a reading room and circulating library improved its membership to 278 and its income from subscriptions to Rs. 13,222, while 754 new books were added. The Botataung Buddhist Literary Society, in addition to keeping a library (visited by 1,925 persons during the year) issued political manifestos on behalf of the "21" Party; its income is small and its closing balance was Rs. 381. The Rangoon Teachers' Institute in addition to providing a reading-room and library had two lectures on educational subjects and arranged eight lantern lectures at schools. Books taken out by borrowers numbered 314: the closing balance was Rs. 1,860 and visitors numbered 5,458. Pending the reconstitution of the Bernard Free Library it was managed by the Principal, University College: readers fell from 7,281 to 6,904 in the general department, but rose from 722 to 1,189 in the manuscript (library) section and from 348 to 585 in the manuscript (secretariat) section; books issued on loan numbered 6,467 against 5,648.

There were 2,139 registered borrowers, of whom 969 were Burmans, 663 Indians and 357 Europeans and Anglo-Indians. The number of books rose by 118 to 11,484 and of manuscripts by 29 to 5,365.

The Burma Research Society continued to issue its journals and held several meetings at which papers on literary, historical and archaeological subjects were read and discussed.

The Y.M.C.A. and Y.W.C.A. each have an institute for members. The General Council of Burmese Associations have encouraged the starting of local libraries and reading clubs, and the latter exist in many localities.

Arts and Sciences.

192. Collections of Burmese handiwork were made for despatch to London in connection with the British Industries Fair and the British Empire Exhibition. The Government Sales Depôt has been closed down. The Annual Provincial Art Handicraft Exhibition, held in the Jubilee Hall, 22nd to 27th January 1923, was the last held by Mr. A. P. Morris; the growth of the Government Institute of Engineering, Insein, of which he is Principal, has made it necessary for him to relinquish the post of Provincial Art Officer which he has held for ten years. He has been succeeded by a Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies, who has been appointed Superintendent of Cottage Industries for the province. This new office combines the functions not only of a Joint Registrar and the Provincial Art Officer but is also intended to promote village industries, *viz.* pottery, weaving, and lacquer making. The Saunders Weaving Institute has been transferred to its charge and a scheme for district weaving schools is in contemplation. A Pottery Expert, trained in Staffordshire, was appointed in August 1922. It is hoped to put into execution schemes, drawn up by Mr. Morris before handing over, for a small pottery class, a vocational school for lacquer workers at Pagan, and ultimately a small pioneer factory, probably at Letthit, Mandalay District, to develop black pottery; in connection with this last, Mr. Morris has transferred to Government his patent rights over a process for producing red figures on a black ground, after the ancient Greek style. A competition for designs by Burmese architects has now become a regular feature of the Annual Provincial Art Handicraft Exhibition, but the field tapped is too small and will probably not expand until an Art School is attached to the new University.

CHAPTER VIII.

ARCHAEOLOGY.

REFERENCE—

Report of the Superintendent, Archaeological Survey, Burma, for the year 1922-23.

193. Pagan and the palace buildings at Mandalay continued to be the principal interests of the Archaeological Department. Progress was made with the compilation of a history of architecture at Pagan, including monographs on the principal temples, also with the compilation of an exhaustive list of inscriptions found in Burma and the "Guide Book to the Palace at Mandalay," but the architectural survey at Mandalay was in abeyance. A list of European burial-grounds in Burma with inscriptions on tombs anterior to 1st January 1858 was completed and published, also Volume III, Part I, of *Epigraphia-Birmanica* dealing with Talaing inscriptions. The trustees of the Man-aung Yadana Pagoda, Mandalay, said to be the last built by King Thebaw, desire to restore and enclose it at a cost of Rs. one lakh to be raised by public subscription, and the ex-Queen Supayalat has consented to their doing so, the trustees undertaking that the style will be perpetuated and none of the original details or ornamentation obliterated by the repairs. The dismantling of the watch tower on Mandalay Palace, another of King Thibaw's constructions, which has been in a dangerous condition for some years, has been opposed on the ground of national feeling and its restoration at the expense of Government suggested. The Palace Garden Committee recommended a permanent staff to be employed for the South and North Gardens outside the palace enclosure, the extensions, and the garden on the palace platform : the subject was under-discussion at the end of the year.

No excavation work was undertaken for the eighth year in succession, but Tagaung, reported as the site of the first kingdom established B.C. in Burma by an Aryan fugitive prince from Northern India, was visited with a view to excavation work being undertaken. Votive tablets found there and now in the Phayre Museum, appeared to lend support to the general truth of the tradition. The tablets, however, bear writings in Nagari character and do not appear to date beyond the 11th century A.D. The sites of three ruined pagodas were examined, but although no traces have been found to show that they belong to so early a period as that suggested, the examination was necessarily superficial and excavation may prove of interest. A list of 99 protected monuments in Burma was prepared in consequence of the changes following the reforms scheme. The two monasteries forming the Sangyaung at Amarapura which are very dilapidated have been removed from the list of monuments conserved by Government. Repairs to the Tilominlo Pagoda at Pagan were continued and alterations and additions made to the Sulamani Pagoda, but the Dhamayangyi, Shwesandaw and Dhammayazaka Pagodas have still to be dealt with. Repairs to the Shitthaung Pagoda, Myohaung, Arakan, were begun. The removal of débris round the Bawbawgyi Pagoda, Prome, will enable the plinths to be examined and measures adopted for their preservation, while it is hoped that the débris will

yield up some interesting objects. The Archaeological Museum at Pagan is to be improved and two bungalows are to be built there. Fragments of two stone lions not well preserved but showing signs of fine sculpture, were found at the Shwezigôn Pagoda, Nyaung-u (Pagan), similar to that found at Amarapura in 1921-22. They are apparently the earliest figures of lion in the round now extant at Pagan, being contemporaneous with the pagoda itself (11th century A.D.) and their construction is attributed to the orders of Anoratha. To the same period or a little later belong the carvings on a wooden door in a temple north of the Shwezigôn Pagoda and inside a ruined temple near the Kondawgyi Pagoda : the latter has been removed to the Pagan Museum. The work done at the Shitthaung Pagoda, Myohaung, Arakan, has been almost wholly to make the building water-tight, but its character has been greatly altered thereby. Contributions of the public fell short of the sum estimated. Efforts to identify the numerous classical places in Burma, existing towns being renamed after well-known places in India or the names of Indian towns being applied to new foundations, had led to the suggestion that this was done to sanctify Burma and identify it with the cradle of Buddhism. Another source of classical place names is due to a pseudo-historical effort to push back the origin of Burmese dynasties by many centuries, thus affiliating them to the Solar and Lunar dynasties of India. Both sets of names are drawn from Pāli sources. Some Indian names may be due to Indian invaders giving the names of their natal districts to places where they settled. The four great disciples of Buddha or "Saints" whose memory is revered by all true Buddhists are *Shin* Upagôk (Upagutta thera) who is besought for fine weather, *Shin* Thiwali (Sivala thera) whose worshippers become prosperous, influential and popular, *Shin* Angulimala, who is besought for the easy delivery of pregnant women, and *Shin* Peindola (Pindola thera) who is a great curer of diseases. At Gwe-ywa, a village in Myittha township, Kyauksè, a number of objects were found (as the result of a dream) which are credited with miraculous powers : they consist of teeth with inscriptions, bones, images of Buddha, inscribed bricks and a terra-cotta votive tablet with a figure of Buddha, the Pāli inscription on which in Burmese characters belonging to the 11th or 12th century A.D. records the making of the images. The locality was one of the Burmese outposts during the Pagan period and the tablet may have been brought from Pagan. A small bell covered with cabalistic squares and *mantras* engraved round figures of animals was found at Shwebo at the Shwe-Chettho Pagoda built by Alaungpaya in 1753 and is said to have belonged originally to the clock tower built by that King.

Expenditure on conservation of ancient monuments amounted to Rs. 58,544, an increase of Rs. 2,181 over the previous year. The cost of archaeological survey rose from Rs. 34,151 to Rs. 44,688, largely due to revision of the Superintendent's pay.

CHAPTER IX.

MISCELLANEOUS.

REFERENCES—

Report of the Chemical Examiner to the Government of Burma for the year 1922.

Report on the Working of the Pasteur Institute and Bacteriological Laboratory for the year 1922-23.

Statistical Abstract for British India, Volume IV.

Report on the Working of the office of the Superintendent, Government Printing, Burma, for the year 1922-23.

Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction.

See paragraphs 302 to 304 of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1921-22.

Ecclesiastical.

194. During the year a visit was paid by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Peterborough and a party from England as a part of the Mission of Help from the English Church to the English-speaking Church in India. Most of the European stations in Burma were visited by one or other of the party and a good deal of interest was aroused. In October Ven. H. Evans Price, Archdeacon of Rangoon, was obliged to leave Burma on medical certificate. Towards the end of the year under review, owing to the scheme for retrenchment of expenses throughout the Indian Empire, notice was received that the Chaplaincy of Port Blair was to be closed.

Stationery.

195. The bulk of the paper used for official purposes continued to be supplied by the Controller of Printing, Stationery and Stamps, Calcutta, from the Indian mills. The cost of stationery supplied to Government Presses and General Departments in Burma during the year amounted to Rs. 4,42,488 and Rs. 81,370, respectively, showing decreases of Rs. 1,59,959 and Rs. 17,760 as compared with the figures of the previous year. The decreases were due to a considerable fall in the price of paper. A stationery depôt for the supplies of paper and stationery articles to officers in the province was opened on the 1st March 1923 under the supervision of the Superintendent, Government Printing, Burma, which, it is anticipated, will result in considerable economy and obviate the numerous complaints regarding delays in supplies.

Chemical Examiner to the Government of Burma.

196. Number of articles examined increased from Rs. 11,027 in 1921 to Rs. 12,396 in 1922. The increase is mainly due to the large

number of cocaine and opium samples sent by the Excise Department. There has been a sudden rise in the number of samples of morphia examined. This is quite contrary to the hopes previously expressed.

Office of the Superintendent, Government Printing, Burma.

197. The work carried out in the three Government Presses, *viz.*, the Central Press and the Jail Branch Press, both in Rangoon, and the Maymyo Branch Press, is almost entirely printing for Government departments. The receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 89,737 against Rs. 97,706 and the expenditure to Rs. 6,11,651 against Rs. 6,82,790 in the previous year. The decrease in expenditure was chiefly due to purchases of paper and binding materials in the previous year having been shown against the press budget instead of the stationery budget. The cost of work done in the Central Press was Rs. 4,08,653, in the Jail Branch Press Rs. 1,30,374 and in the Maymyo Branch Press Rs. 22,593, in all Rs. 5,61,620. The corresponding total for 1921-22 was Rs. 5,37,263. The value of the dead stock at the three presses, exclusive of lands and buildings, was estimated at the close of the year to be Rs. 5,69,722 against Rs. 5,33,805 in the previous year. The value of the sales (excluding those of Gazettes) made to the public at the Book Depôt and by the authorised agents amounted to Rs. 21,475 against Rs. 21,085 in the previous year, and the additions to stock were valued at Rs. 88,534. Acts and publications supplied free during the year were valued at Rs. 61,764 against Rs. 55,049 in the previous year. There was a slight increase of work in nearly every department of the Press during the year.

G.B.C.P.O.—No. 495, F. R. S., 24-12-24—700.

Map
OF
BURMA
SHOWING
DIVISIONS AND DISTRICTS
[To accompany the Administration Report]
1922-23
Scale : 1 inch = 32 miles.
NORTHERN SHAN STATES
SOUTHERN SHAN STATES
KACHIN HILLS
CHIN HILLS
NAGA TRIBES
CHITTAGONG HILL TRACTS
ARAKAN
UNADMINISTERED
UNADMINISTERED
NORTH WESTERN FRONTIER DIVISION
SOUTHERN FRONTIER DIVISION
96°
98°
100°
28°
26°
24°
22°

BAY OF
BENGAL
S I A M
MARTABAN
REFERENCES.
Boundary between Lower and Upper Burma

International Boundary	
District Boundary	
Tributary States	
Federated Shan States	
District Headquarters	RANGOON
Principal Towns	Loikaw
Villages	Pyingwa
Cantonments and Municipalities	RANGOON
Municipalities	RANGOON
Railways completed with stations	
Railways in progress with stations	
Embankments	
Metalled Roads	
Unmetalled Roads	
Principal Mule Tracks	
Chief irrigated areas	
Light-Houses	Oyster Is: Light-House
Light-Vessels	Light-Vessel
Beacons	Palaw Beacons

12°

92°

94°

96°

98°

100°

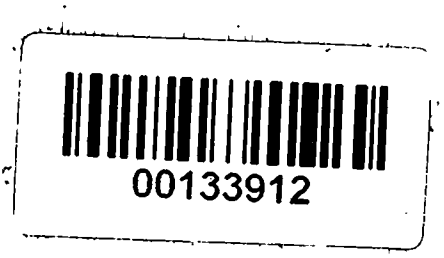
12°

10°

MERGUI ARCHIPELAGO

MARTABAN

TAVOY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